

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

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ARGENTINA

EEC's Cheysson on 'Soviet Threat,' Motley Remarks	B	1
FRG Foreign Ministry Official Discusses Visit [LA PRENSA 1 Mar]	B	2
GDR's Homann Arrives for Working Visit	B	3
General Pianta Declines Chief of Staff Post	B	3
Rodoni Named Acting Chief	B	4
Reorganization 'Under Control'	B	4
Rios Erenu Installed as New Army Chief of Staff	B	4
Outlines Objectives	B	4
Navy Chief Reaffirms Loyalty to Government	B	5
Rear Admirals Reportedly Request Retirement	B	5
Supreme Council Petitions for Astiz' Release	B	5
Astiz Released	B	6
Borras Wants Release Invalidated	B	6
Magazine-Sponsored Survey Reveals Coup Fear [BUENOS AIRES HERALD 1 Mar]	B	6

BOLIVIA

Mineworkers Remain in La Paz To Obtain Demands	C	1
Massive Rally Held	C	1
Further Report on Rally	C	1
Defense Minister Says Elections Will Be Held	C	1
ADN Electoral Campaign Chief's House Bombed	C	2
National Smelting Enterprise Reportedly 'Dying'	C	2
High Command Concerned Over Military Budget	C	3
Cocaine Factories Destroyed, 14 Arrested	C	3
EFE: Economy Threatened by Drug Traffickers	C	4

BRAZIL

Leadership Changes in Chamber of Deputies	D	1
New Chamber President Speaks	D	1
Guimaraes Not Unanimous Choice	D	1
Nelson Marchezan Quits [FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 2 Mar]	D	2
New Government Military Cabinet Chief Nominated [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 1 Mar]	D	2
Briefs: Potassium Mine	D	2

CHILE

Cuadra Releases New Figures on Quake Victims	E	1
Disaster Areas Declared	E	1
Funds Allocated To Help Victims	E	1
Finance Minister Postpones Trip to Washington	E	1

COLOMBIA

Nicaraguan Urbina Lara Arrives in Bogota	F	1
Further Report	F	1
Foreign Minister on Urbina Case, Area Conflict	F	2
Dominican Republic President Arrives for Visit	F	3
Betancur Offers Aid to Chilean Quake Victims	F	3
Ramirez on Possibility of March Contadora Meeting	F	4
[Managua Radio Sandino Network]		
M-19 Criticizes Official Attitude on Dialogue	F	4
Meat Exports to EEC Countries Reactivated	F	5

ECUADOR

Personalities Oppose Intervention in Nicaragua	G	1
--	---	---

PARAGUAY

PLRA, PRF Leaders Arrested After Youth Forum	H	1
CPT in Exile Repudiates Arrest	H	1
Argentine Deputy Protests Arrest	H	2
Arrested Youths Released [ULTIMA HORA 5 Mar]	H	2

PERU

Nicaragua's Ortega Stops Over, Makes Statement	J	1
Belaunde Discusses Trip to Bolivia, Foreign Debt	J	1
Meeting of Presidential Candidates	J	2
Trade Unions Announce Stoppages; Demand Raises	J	2
Barrantes Favors 5-Year Moratorium on Debt	J	3
Private Sector Workers Get Wage Increase	J	3

URUGUAY

Sanguinetti Takes Steps To Pacify Country	K	1
Reinstated Communist Leaders Criticize President	K	2
Foreign Minister's Views on Economy, Chile	K	2
[Santiago EL MERCURIO 26 Feb]		
General Berois Reportedly To Head I Army Corps	K	4

PANAMA

Cocina Advocates Strike Against Government	N	1
[LA PRENSA 1 Mar]		

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Urbina Free; Government Endorses Contadora Forum	P	1
Monge Notes Other Problems With Nicaragua	P	2
Details of Penas Blancas Incident Unclear	P	2
PVP Condemns Foreign Policy, Complicity With U.S.	P	2
[LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA 22 Feb]		

EL SALVADOR

Gen Vessey Introduces Calvin to High Command	P 4
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 4 Mar]	
FPL Issues Communique on Struggle, Goals	P 4
[Farabundo Marti]	

GUATEMALA

Army Affirms Guarantees for Citizens, Amnesty	P 7
Guerrilla Claims Support From Cuba, Nicaragua	P 7

HONDURAS

Suazo Meets With U.S. Military Officers	P 8
---	-----

NICARAGUA

Urbina Lara Released; Flown to Colombia	P 9
Tinoco Discusses Importance of Manzanillo Talks	P 11
Wheelock Stresses Military, Economic Defense	P 11
[BARRICADA 4 Mar]	
Wheelock on High Sugar Price, Harvest Progress	P 12
PSC President Views Ortega Peace Proposals	P 13
[LA PRENSA 1 Mar]	
PSC Official Urges Renewal of National Dialogue	P 14
[LA PRENSA 1 Mar]	
PCdeN Head on Revolution's 'Capitalist Denouement'	[AFP] P 14
Pastora Issues Document Urging True Union	P 15
[San Jose Radio Reloj]	

CUBA

Government Issues Communique on Nicaragua	Q 1
'Our America' on Reagan Statements on Nicaragua	Q 2
Castro Meets With Argentine Party Leader [AFP]	Q 3
Flavio Bravo, Nicaragua's Ortega Leave Uruguay	Q 4
Montane Greets Returning Bravo	Q 4
Cooperation Meeting With SFRY Opens in Havana [TANJUG]	Q 4
Roberto Veiga Receives Spanish Labor Leaders	Q 4
Leaders To Discuss Labor Movement	Q 5
Talks Begin	Q 5
Carlos Rafael Rodriguez Receives UN Official	Q 5
ANPP Members To Make 5-Day Visit to Japan 13 Mar	Q 5
Ciego de Avila ANAP Announces New Goals	Q 6
Report on Labor Code Violations in Holguin	Q 6
Start of 1985 FAR Instruction Period Celebrated	Q 6

CARIBBEAN

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Jacobs on Foreign Policy, Economic Development	S 1
--	-----

BARBADOS

Prime Minister Seeks More Japanese Investment S 1

DOMINICA

Charles Denies Report on Opposition Winning S 1

GRENADA

Blaize Reports Aid From Jamaica Likely S 2

Government Denies Bank Sale to Trinidad Group S 2

Nutmeg Industry Report Described as 'Bleak' S 3

JAMAICA

UNIDO Director To Meet With Seaga, Ministers S 4

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Public Sector Workers Stage Strike in Aruba S 4

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

U.S. Explorer Ship To Be Returned by Venezuela S 4

GUYANA

Burnham on Venezuela Conflict, Cuba Ties T 1

Two Government Reappointments Announced T 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Jorge Leaves on 40-Hour Trip to Colombia V 1

MEXICO

Secretariat Announces Decrease in Trade Surplus V 1

VENEZUELA

Visiting UK Official Discusses Falklands V 1

EEC'S CHEYSSON ON 'SOVIET THREAT,' MOTLEY REMARKS

PY052234 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1057 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (DYN) -- EEC Commissioner Claude Cheysson has stated: "I am sick and tired of listening to talk of the Soviet threat. The real danger comes from the failure of democracy as a political system due to its inability to resolve the economic crisis, which could lead to a social explosion which would represent the greatest victory that could be achieved by the totalitarian regimes."

"Argentina represents the most significant case in Latin America," Cheysson stated at a press conference he held yesterday to outline the results of his almost 3-day visit to Argentina. He added: "Argentina's return to democracy is a historical event. Argentina is a developed country with an economic crisis that must be resolved, but its people need a growth and development program."

Cheysson referred to his meetings with President Raul Alfonsin, Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, and newly designated Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille, with whom he reached two conclusions. One of these, Cheysson said, is that "there is a converging interest between Europe and Latin America on mobilizing the international economic means beyond a mere treatment of the foreign debt." The other conclusion is that "cooperation between the EEC and Argentina must be established and that some aspects of export measures adopted by Argentina must be studied. These measures are quite respectable because they were adopted by a sovereign nation, although they may not be conducive to the best allocation of its products." Cheysson stated in this regard that "no country that intends to export imposes heavy tax burdens on its exports."

He added that the situation in Latin America "is difficult," and said that "if we take into account the importance of Argentina and its previous development, Argentina is the most important country in Latin America." He stated: "We Europeans have a debt to you for having marked the return to democracy." He went on to say that President Alfonsin and the Argentine Government "have assumed their responsibility in the Cartagena group to contribute to the international order, accepting the conditions imposed by that situation."

Queried about the British position as a member of the EEC and the implications of British relations with Argentina, Cheysson explained that "the EEC is not charged with defending either party's position. Since the end of the (Malvinas) war, the EEC has maintained normal relations with Argentina." He added: "This is why I am here."

Asked whether he had brought concrete measures concerning the foreign debt and help for future growth, Cheysson stated that "Argentina's trade with the EEC is positive. Argentina sells twice as much as it purchases from the EEC, giving it a profit of \$1 billion a year." He added that each product must be studied to establish the Argentine export capacity, stressing that last year Argentina did not have a meat surplus for exports after meeting its domestic and export quotas.

After referring to the export problems Argentina is facing, Cheysson warned that "the failure of democracy in Argentina would be catastrophic for the free world."

Cheysson stated that within the international community "nothing is possible without the participation of the United States. It is for this reason that I am surprised that the U.S. Administration has received Argentina's return to a democracy with the same complacency as the American people and the U.S. Congress." He said that the Argentine democratic victory was favorably received in France and that President Alfonsin was able to ascertain this during his visit there.

Asked his opinion about the recent statement by Langhorne Motley, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs, that Chile "is in good hands," Cheysson stated that he does not usually comment on remarks by other politicians. "But as a French and European politician," he stated, "I think those hands are stained with blood, and therefore I would not call them good hands."

Finally, referring to the possibility of Spain and Portugal joining the EEC, he explained that "the little problems have been solved, but not the big ones." In this regard, he specifically referred to the fishing problem, and ironically stated that "we cannot increase the number of fish, but we will certainly increase the number of fishing vessels in the North Sea."

Cheysson, who arrived in Buenos Aires on 2 March from Montevideo after attending the transfer of presidential powers, left a little after noon for Brasilia.

FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES VISIT

PY050210 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Mar 85 p 4

[Text] Minutes before leaving for Montevideo where he will attend the inauguration of the new Uruguayan constitutional president, Minister of State in the FRG Foreign Ministry Juergen Moellemann talked with journalists at the Buenos Aires Metropolitan Airport. Moellemann, who is 39 years old and a member of the Liberal Democratic Party, reported that on 27 February he held a meeting with Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and on 28 February with Argentine Vice President Victor Martinez and with Senator Adolfo Gass, the chairman of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, with whom he discussed bilateral issues.

The high-ranking official noted that there are good prospects to strengthen bilateral ties, but that first there are short-term problems that must be resolved both in Argentina and in Europe. First of all Argentina must curb its inflation rate so as to promote foreign investments while European countries must try to combat protectionist trends that still prevail within the Common Market. He noted that at present Argentina and the FRG maintain excellent relations at the political level and he added that the FRG foreign minister visited Argentina last year. He added that there is also much expectation over the visit that President Alfonsin will pay to the FRG, probably in September.

Asked whether the FRG could be a door to the EEC market for Latin American products, Moellemann said that this can only be discussed on the basis of a common position of European countries and that the FRG advocated the lifting of protectionist barriers.

On disarmament, Moellemann noted that the FRG appreciates the effort that was recently made by government leaders at the New Delhi summit, but that his country shares a different opinion than that held by Argentina. He said that the FRG supports reciprocal disarmament and avoiding war through dissuasion. He noted that nuclear arms should not be restricted since once they are proscribed there would be no guarantee to preventing a conventional war.

Asked about the FRG's position regarding the Central American conflict, Moellemann answered that Daniel Ortega's announcement that a U.S. Congress committee will be able to inspect Sandinist military bases is most noteworthy. Asked his opinion about recent statements issued by President Reagan criticizing the Nicaraguan Government, Moellemann noted that the FRG favors the efforts of the Contadora Group, and this is why the FRG supported the San Jose conference last year, which upheld a position in favor of the principle of nonintervention.

Asked about the treaty between Argentina and Chile which will be discussed in Congress soon, Moellemann noted that the extent of this treaty shows that there are possibilities that very soon Argentina and Chile will be able to definitively overcome their problems, something which will greatly satisfy the FRG.

Regarding the conflict with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands, Moellemann said that he had discussed the issue with Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and that perhaps he will discuss it again in Montevideo. He added: "I would like to note that the FRG advocates the holding of direct negotiations between Great Britain and Argentina."

GDR'S HOMANN ARRIVES FOR WORKING VISIT

PY052307 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2127 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentine Vice President Victor Martinez this afternoon met with GDR Deputy Chairman of the State Council Heinrich Homann, who has arrived in the country from Montevideo on a working visit. In Montevideo, he participated in the inaugural ceremonies of President Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

Neither Martinez nor the important visitor made any statements, but it has been reported that Homann will meet with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo just before noon on 6 March and that during the afternoon he will meet with President Raul Alfonsin. On 7 March, he will meet with the presidents of the two houses of Congress and with Adolfo Cass, head of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. At the protocol level, the Argentine vice president will host a banquet for Homann on 7 March and Homann will host a reception for Martinez on 8 March at the GDR Embassy.

The German official arrived at 1720 at the military sector of the Aeroparque Airport in an F-27 plane of the Uruguayan Air Force. He was met by officials from the Argentine Foreign Ministry and from the GDR Embassy.

GENERAL PIANTA DECLINES CHIEF OF STAFF POST

PY051113 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0301 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (TELAM) -- Major General Ricardo Gustavo Pianta has not accepted his appointment as chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff and has submitted his application for retirement to Defense Minister Raul Borrás. A source from the Defense Ministry, who released this report, added that no appointment has yet been made for the Joint Staff and that Minister Borrás will take his time in appointing a successor to Lieutenant General Julio Fernandez Torres. The source added that since the high command posts of the Armed Forces are consolidated, Minister Borrás has not yet made a decision on the appointment of the new chief of the Joint Staff.

The source also reported that some appointments will be made in the Navy and the Air Force but made it clear that these will not entail major changes. He also noted that [Navy Chief of Staff] Vice Admiral Ramon Arosa, [Air Force Chief of Staff] Major General Teodoro Waldner, and General Hector Rios Erenu, who will be sworn in tomorrow as the new Army chief of staff, enjoy the confidence of the defense minister.

Asked whether this situation could be described as a military crisis, he said that these changes were scheduled to take place in December last year but were postponed due to the defense minister's health problems. Thus he completely rules out the interpretation of this situation as a military crisis.

The Defense Ministry source added that the appointment of the new Armed Forces chief of staff could prompt some changes within the Joint Staff but noted that those serving there will continue to have the same rank and to follow the same directives. The source also made it clear that Pianta was not dismissed but rather that he had submitted his application for retirement. He also said that the new chief of staff will be a high-ranking officer but did not specify from what branch of the Armed Forces he would be. The source added that the minister will discuss tomorrow the appointments to the Army leadership based on a list Gen Rios Erenu will submit for his consideration.

Rodoni Named Acting Chief

PY051244 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1224 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- At 1030 today Defense Minister Raul Borrás will install Air Force Brigadier General Nelsi Natalio Rodoni as acting chief of the Joint Staff. Gen Rodoni is at present deputy chief of the Joint Staff, a Defense Ministry source said. The installation ceremony will take place in the Defense Ministry building at 225 Paseo Colon.

Reorganization 'Under Control'

PY051825 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1652 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (DYN) -- An authoritative Defense Ministry source stated at noon today that the situation stemming from the reorganization of the high military leadership "is absolutely and completely under control," and reiterated that it is not urgent at all for the government to appoint a new joint chief of staff. The source added that Defense Minister Raul Borrás and Defense Secretary Horacio Jaunarena today held a 2-hour meeting to discuss issues related to the appointment of the successor of Lieutenant General Julio Fernandez Torres, whose application for retirement was approved yesterday.

RIOS ERENU INSTALLED AS NEW ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF

PY052159 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2121 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- Defense Minister Raul Borrás installed Brigadier General Hector Rios Erenu as Army chief of staff shortly after 1800. The ceremony was held at the parade ground of the 1st Patricios Infantry Regiment, which is based in the Palermo District of this capital. Defense Secretary Horacio Jaunarena; Production for Defense Secretary Raul Tomas; the head of the Senate Defense Committee, Antonio Berhongaray; and the head of the Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, Balbino Zubiri, among others, participated in the ceremony. Navy Chief of Staff Vice Admiral Ramon Arosa, Air Force Chief of Staff Major General Teodora Waldner, and former Army Chief of Staff Major General Ricardo Pianta also participated.

Outlines Objectives

PY060236 Buenos Aires Radio Belgrano in Spanish 0130 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Excerpt] As was scheduled, Brigadier General Hector Rios Erenu was installed as Army chief of staff today. Speaking on the occasion to the troops assembled for the ceremony, Gen Rios Erenu stated that the Army must contribute to the consolidation of democracy and remain strictly subordinate to the political power.

He also urged the citizenry to help the Army fulfill this objective. Rios Erenu said that the main objectives of his tenure are an effective and overall integration with the Air Force and the Navy, the reorganization of the Army to increase its operational capabilities, and the strengthening of the democratic system and its institutions.

Meanwhile, in response to journalists' questions, Defense Minister Raul Borrás denied that there is a state of deliberation within the Armed Forces and stated that the idea is to depoliticize them and make them professional. Borrás also said that the crisis in the higher echelons of the Army and the Joint Chiefs of Staff is definitely over. He emphasized that there will be no substantial changes in the Navy and the Air Force, whose chiefs of staff will not be replaced, and that the government is studying the appointment of a new joint chief of staff to replace General Fernandez Torres, who today did not show up for General Rios Erenu's swearing in ceremony.

NAVY CHIEF REAFFIRMS LOYALTY TO GOVERNMENT

PY052058 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1535 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (TELAM) -- Vice Admiral Ramon Arosa, Navy chief of staff, today stated that his branch is honestly subordinated to the political power. This is not subordination to a given sector, but to the system of government and the philosophy of life set forth in the nation's Constitution, he said. "Being honest, this subordination was neither subsequent nor abject. On the contrary, its honesty was proven at the proper time and place through agreements, disagreements, and frank statements of viewpoints that effectively contributed to improving ideas and, once these became decisions, the extent of the subordination was clearly shown by respect for the hierarchy." Arosa made these remarks during a ceremony commemorating the 12th anniversary of Admiral Guillermo Brown's death. The ceremony was held at the heliport of the Libertad building, Navy headquarters. On the occasion Arosa expressed his opinion that the difficulties the nation is living through call, more than ever before, for unity, integrity, and a spirit of self-sacrifice.

REAR ADMIRALS REPORTEDLY REQUEST RETIREMENT

PY052352 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2205 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- Navy sources this afternoon refused to confirm or deny the rumors that are circulating about the retirement of four rear admirals. The rumors indicate that the following Navy officers have requested retirement: Deputy Chief of Staff Rear Admiral Raul Marino, Commander of Naval Operations Rear Admiral Jose Sacona, Marine Commander Rear Admiral Arico Hector Taladriz, and Navy War School Director Rear Admiral Ernesto Diamante. The headquarters of the Navy Staff has indicated that any information regarding this topic will be supplied by the Defense Ministry.

SUPREME COUNCIL PETITIONS FOR ASTIZ' RELEASE

PY052245 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2034 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- The spokesman for the Military Court has reported that the Armed Forces Supreme Council at noon today submitted a resolution to Defense Minister Raul Borrás that orders the release of Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz, who is under arrest at the San Fernando Naval Base.

Astiz was arrested in relation to the kidnapping and disappearance of the Swedish girl Dagmar Hagelin in 1977. The Supreme Council contends that the Navy officer was tried in 1981 and found not guilty of this crime, and it bases its decision on the principle that he should not stand trial again for the same crime. The spokesman said that Astiz' situation depends in the final analysis on the decision of Minister Borras, who is studying the case.

Astiz Released

PY060137 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2155 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- Judge Siro de Martini, one of Navy Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz' defense lawyers, has reported that Astiz was released today at noon from the Buenos Aires Navy Base. De Martini told Radio Continental that "I personally accompanied Lt Astiz when he exited the Navy base."

Borras Wants Release Invalidated

PY060140 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2341 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Mar (TELAM) -- Defense Minister Raul Borras has instructed the Armed Forces prosecutor to obtain the invalidation of the resolution through which the Armed Forces Supreme Council has ordered the release of Navy Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz. This has been disclosed by a Defense Ministry spokesman.

MAGAZINE-SPONSORED SURVEY REVEALS COUP FEAR

PY011552 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 1 Mar 85 p 7

[Text] (NA) -- Fifty-six percent of all Argentines feel the Armed Forces could stage another coup and 62 percent say this would be possible "because the military are very ambitious," according to a public opinion poll released yesterday.

In a poll taken for the weekly magazine SOMOS, the A and C Agency reported that two percent of those polled feel the government is doing a "very good" job controlling the Armed Forces, 23 percent feel the government's performance is "good," 21 percent feel it is "bad," and 16 percent "don't know." Asked what should be done with the Armed Forces, seven percent say they should be given more arms, 53 percent say they should be moderately armed, and 22 percent say the military should be abolished.

On the excesses committed during the so-called dirty war against subversion, 50 percent say responsibility for those crimes fall on the Armed Forces hierarchy while 37 percent say "the Armed Forces in its entirety" is to blame. Among the least-educated persons questioned, this latter category polled a majority.

Polled on the possibility of a military coup, 56 percent say it is possible while 36 percent say it is not. Among the least educated groups polled those percentages are 55 and 34. Sixty-two percent said a coup would be motivated by military ambitions while 32 percent said a government could be overthrown if it "is weak with the military." However, 46 percent say the public would successfully oppose a coup, 18 percent say the government would prevent it, and 27 percent say "the military has learned its lesson." Twenty-nine percent say a coup attempt would fail because the military lacks political support.

MINeworkERS TO REMAIN IN LA PAZ TO OBTAIN DEMANDS

Massive Rally Held

PY051756 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Last night about 5,000 mineworkers were gathered at the La Paz stadium to discuss the general situation. Victor Lopez Arias, secretary general of the Trade Union Federation of Bolivian Mineworkers, told us that the mineworkers here work for government-owned companies as well as for private ones.

Today the mineworkers will begin joint actions to obtain compliance with their demands, as they decided at the last national meeting of the Bolivian Labor Federation.

The mineworkers have decided to remain in La Paz until their problems are resolved.

Further Report on Rally

PY051824 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] A tense situation in downtown La Paz marks the social and political atmosphere in the city. The country is witnessing the paralysis of seven important and productive mining districts.

Some 10,000 mineworkers from all over Bolivia have gathered in a stadium located near San Andres University and they threaten to stay in La Paz as long as there are no concrete solutions to their problems.

The mineworkers have three specific demands involving salaries, including the 3.1-million bonus which they did not receive, despite specific orders. They also demand that their company stores be restocked since they are out of supplies, and that price controls on basic items be implemented.

DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD

PY051942 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] National Defense Minister General Manuel Cardenas Mallo, retired, today said that the COB does not want the general elections to take place, as scheduled by President Siles Zuazo for 16 June 1985.

Minister Cardenas was replying to questions from Panamericana following the COB march for bread and freedom.

Cardenas Mallo said that the government will be able to hold the elections as long as the labor organizations consider their actions.

[Begin Cardenas recording] Of course we want to hold the elections, just as the government has decided. But the elections will be held only if all the labor, political, and business sector respond positively to the call for elections.

Last night we met to discuss yesterday's events to find the best solutions to the problems. But I reiterate that we are determined to hold the next elections. [end recording]

After hearing this statement, the reporters asked some questions. One was: Will the call for elections be subject to what the COB decides?

[Begin recording] [Cardenas] No, it is not a condition, but this is basically what the COB wants, since it has completely rejected the call for elections.

[Reporter] What is your opinion of yesterday's COB march, which demanded President Siles' resignation?

[Cardenas] The Democratic and Popular Unity government of President Siles Zuazo was elected by 36 percent of the electorate. The wishes of 5 percent of the population will not affect the decision of the Bolivian people, many of whom voted for the UDP government. [end recording]

ADN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN CHIEF'S HOUSE BOMBED

PY032115 Paris AFP in Spanish 1322 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 2 Mar (AFP) -- A terrorist attack with a powerful bomb occurred last night at the home of Mario Mercado, former La Paz mayor, and electoral campaign chief of the Nationalist Democratic Action (ADN), damaging the house and frightening its inhabitants.

According to the maid, unidentified individuals in a moving vehicle threw a device which, upon hitting the ground, exploded, destroying the front of the house which is located in a residential area of this capital.

Mercado, who is also a sports personality and a prosperous mining businessman, pointed out that the terrorist attacks, whether from the extreme left or right, will not prevent the ADN electoral campaign, with former President Hugo Banzer Suarez as a presidential candidate, and the elections scheduled for 16 June.

It was reported that Mario Mercado's house suffered similar attacks in 1982 and in 1983.

NATIONAL SMELTING ENTERPRISE REPORTEDLY 'DYING'

PY041552 Paris AFP in Spanish 1420 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] La Paz, 3 Mar (AFP) -- It was reported in La Paz today that the tin smelters installed during the administration of General Juan Jose Torres (1970-71), which are a source of national pride, will gradually go out of operation next week due to the lack of tin concentrates (raw material).

This information has been supplied by National Smelting Enterprise (ENAF) manager, engineer Norman Sahonero, who stressed that ENAF is dying. This fact reflects the economic crisis afflicting the country, a crisis which strongly affects the national mining industry. The production cost of a pound of tin in Bolivia is \$16, while tin prices in the international market are less than \$5.

In conclusion, Bolivia, which for decades has been known as a mining country, now has natural gas rather than minerals as its principal source of foreign currency.

HIGH COMMAND CONCERNED OVER MILITARY BUDGET

PY060007 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Defense Minister General Cardenas Mallo has made a statement in the Finance Ministry. He said:

[Begin recording] As a result of the latest measures, the military budget is out of balance. The military high command and the two ministries, the Ministries of Aeronautics and Defense, are trying to reshuffle their own budgets, that is, not to add any new burdens to the national treasury but to implement cuts in some of our expenditures. We are concerned about the problems of feeding the troops, cadres, and cadets, in addition to the problems of providing medical care and of course salary problem. I would like to reiterate that the salaries of the members of the Armed Forces are low and that we are dealing with this problem not in an exaggerated but in a most equitable manner to find solutions. [end recording]

Economic matters related to the Armed Forces were discussed this morning. There were reports last week that there is some uneasiness in the Armed Forces because of the low salaries from majors on down. The young officers have reportedly requested a solution to their salary problem. This problem was today discussed at a meeting of the military high command, including General Simon Sejas Tordoya, with the finance minister. The meeting was also attended by Defense Minister Cardenas Mallo.

The reporters who patiently waited for the conclusion of the meeting noted that the military chiefs appeared upset. There are no reports whether any agreement, if there was one, was reached. Radio Panamericana was able to get brief remarks from General Sejas Tordoya. He refused to give concrete answers in relation to the military budget, but he confirmed the government's official request that the Armed Forces guarantee the electoral process.

[Begin Sejas recording] The Armed Forces have always acted within the constitutional framework and will continue acting in accordance with the Constitution. [end recording]

Gen Sejas Tordoya did not answer questions about yesterday's COB demonstration. He explained that the military high command will not comment for the time being on the country's current political situation.

COCAINE FACTORIES DESTROYED, 14 ARRESTED

PY051810 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The latest operations carried out by the National Anti-Drug Trafficking Committee directed by Colonel Carlos Fernandez Gonzalez have resulted in the arrest of 14 persons, the confiscation of several vehicles, and the discovery of factories. The operations were carried out in the towns of (Frangoder), Incullo, Sacaba, and Chuquibambui, in Cochabamba and Santa Cruz Departments. In Cochabamba Valley, 10 persons were arrested and 3 cocaine factories were destroyed.

EFE: ECONOMY THREATENED BY DRUG TRAFFICKERS

PY031950 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0344 GMT 2 Mar 85

[By Amanda Davila]

[Text] La Paz, 1 Mar (EFE) -- Planning Minister Freddy Justiniano has told EFE that organized groups of Bolivian drug traffickers control an underground financial market that is threatening to destroy the national economy and that the government is not able to prevent it. The drug traffickers currently control 65 percent of the money circulating in Bolivia. The estimated money supply for the month of February reached 4.5 trillion Bolivian pesos, which means that 2.9 trillion are in the hands of the drug traffickers. Justiniano added that another group that harms the Bolivian economy is that formed by speculators from the Bolivian private banks, currency exchange houses, business, and staple importing companies, all of which traffic with government-owned foreign currency. In past administration, most of the money circulating in Bolivia was controlled by the banking sector without speculation, although the parallel economy existed then, and was handled by businessmen and smugglers, the minister explained. But then drug traffickers, private banks, import businessmen and others, all started to participate in this parallel economy and caused unrealistic speculation with the price of the blackmarket dollar, which is impossible to control, Justiniano said. In December and January the prices of staples and other goods increased at the same rate as the black-market dollar, which reached the price of 150,000 Bolivian pesos, while its official price was 9,000 Bolivian pesos, thus establishing more than 1,500 percent difference.

Justiniano told EFE that this situation has forced President Siles' government to allow a special issuance of banknotes and coins which worsened the crisis and prevented the success of the economic programs. Money issued in November 1984 reached 1.5 billion Bolivian pesos, and it currently is at 4.5 billion, which means that there was a 200-percent increase in money issued within the past 90 days. Out of the total amount issued, 2.9 percent has no government economic backing, but it served to pay for the salary increase demanded by the labor organizations because of the loss in purchasing power.

Justiniano said drug trafficking and other speculating sectors of the economy are responsible for this imbalance that worsens the crisis. For example, the drug trafficking world in Bolivia handles more than \$2 billion a year, while Bolivian exports amounted to only \$670 million last year.

Minister Justiniano explained to EFE the economic mechanisms used by drug traffickers to get into the black market system. They manufacture cocaine, sell it in dollars, and then exchange them on the black market; but then they participate in the U.S. currency exchange market, thus obtaining additional profits, he said.

Justiniano explained that the government expects to reduce the influence of the underground financial market with the economic measures adopted on 9 February which reduce the amount of money in circulation. The government has put into effect a new exchange rate, it has increased the interest rates banks charge and their reserve rates, and it has also reformed taxes.

Despite these measures, there is no optimism in economic circles about government's incentives, which are meant to reduce the amount of money in circulation and the influence of the underground economy, because those who control it are not willing to save or, even less, to pay taxes.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES IN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

New Chamber President Speaks

PY051844 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] The speech delivered by Brazilian Democratic Movement Party [PMDB] Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes upon being installed as president of the Chamber of Deputies was so successful that it was welcomed with a standing ovation by the deputies of all political parties. Speaking for 25 minutes, Ulysses Guimaraes defended voting rights for the illiterate and recommended that Tancredo Neves' government be austere in its spending in order to straighten out everything believed to be wrong in the country. Only time will tell if this recommendation is taken into consideration.

A report from Brasilia brings more details about Ulysses Guimaraes' speech.

[Begin Carlos Rodrigues report from Brasilia] In a speech delivered upon being installed as president of the Chamber of Deputies, Ulysses Guimaraes praised the independence and strengthening of the legislative branch. He asked the deputies to propose party reforms. He defended holding direct elections in provincial capital cities this year, and the right to vote for the 30 million illiterates in Brazil.

Ulysses said that the government should undertake more changes or else it will lose the nation's confidence. He also made a call to reorganize the economy.

[Begin Ulysses Guimaraes recording] Among today's urgent priorities, putting the economy in order is imperative if we are to achieve social peace. We must bring to an end the existing economic disorder. There will be no economic order if the disorderly inflation prevails. Inflation is a damned, sly, and immoral [word indistinct] that brings poverty to the small- and medium-sized businessmen, and it robs food, health, education, and employment from the people for the criminal profit of speculators and the privileged. [end recording]

Ulysses Guimaraes issued a warning, saying that the people have changed and expect more changes.

[Begin Guimaraes recording] The people have changed, so the legislative, executive, and judicial branches will have to change. Either they change or they will be changed. Democracy is a regime in which the governed change the governors and in which violence, peace, and changes exist, whether the rulers like it or not. [end recording]

Ulysses Guimaraes also defended using the science of information [as heard] and demanded more funds for the political parties to prevent electoral fraud. He made a warning, saying that if elections are not financed by the government, they will be bought by economic powers. Ending his 25-minute speech, Ulysses received a standing ovation by the deputies of all parties. [end report]

Guimaraes Not Unanimous Choice

PY041840 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Despite the political ability of President-elect Tancredo Neves, he cannot make the different groups which support him reach an agreement, as demonstrated by the recent dispute for the presidency of the Chamber of Deputies that took place last week.

The victory of PMDB Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes by a small 31-vote margin over his PMDB contender Deputy Alencar Furtado shows that there are PMDB congressmen who do not favor Guimaraes, the official candidate of the party and of President-elect Tancredo Neves.

Nelson Marchezan Quits

PY041848 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Mar 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Observing that he does not intend to leave the Social Democratic Party [PDS], Deputy Nelson Marchezan, 46, resigned yesterday from the party's leadership in the Chamber of Deputies. The congressman from Rio Grande do Sul gave the following reasons for his resignation: the noncompliance with the agreement made with the PMDB to elect Ulysses Guimaraes as president of the Chamber of Deputies (two-thirds of the bloc voted for Alencar Furtado), and his fellow party members' dissatisfaction with his leadership.

NEW GOVERNMENT MILITARY CABINET CHIEF NOMINATED

PY041820 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Mar 85 p 4

[Excerpt] There is a new surprise in the military area under the new Republic government: The chief of the Military Cabinet of the Presidency will be General Rubens Bayma Denys, current commander of the Agulhas Negras Military Academy and son of Marshal Odyllo Denys, now in the reserves, who was minister under Juscelino Kubitschek and Janio Quadros.

President-elect Tancredo Neves has preferred to maintain a two-star general as chief of the Military Cabinet after consulting with the Air Force four-star generals on the advisability of appointing a four-star general to that post. Since the consultation was negative, Tancredo Neves opted for keeping the tradition.

BRIEFS

POTASSIUM MINE -- The first potassium mine will begin operating on 5 March. The mining and manufacturing complex is located in the area of Tacuari Vassouras in Sergipe and will save the country about \$70 million per year. The complex will turn out 100,000 tons of 75-percent potassium content pellets for the fertilizer industry. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 27 Feb 85 PY]

CUADRA RELEASES NEW FIGURES ON QUAKE VICTIMS

PY060216 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2345 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Report by Daniel Ortiz]

[Excerpt] The minister secretary general of government, Francisco Javier Cuadra, has just released new figures on the effects of the earthquake that occurred in the central area of the country on 3 March. According to the latest report released by the minister, the number of dead has risen to 143 people. These are distributed in the following manner: 68 in the metropolitan area; 53 in the Fifth Region; 19 in the Sixth Region; and 3 in the Seventh Region. The minister also announced that as of 1800 local time, the number of injured stood at 1,900 and that 1 person was still missing. The minister also emphatically pointed out that the law will be strictly enforced in regard to speculation and hoarding that have taken place in some areas. Minister Cuadra also commented on the situation in various sectors related to health, public works, and running water, pointing out that these will be normalized in the next few hours.

Disaster Areas Declared

PY052048 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2010 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Report by Hugo Reyes]

[Text] The government has declared the metropolitan area and the Fifth and Sixth Regions disaster areas. This was reported a few minutes ago by Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra. He also reported that the total number of victims now stands at 165,478.

Funds Allocated To Help Victims

PY052102 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1453 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Santiago, 5 Mar (EFE) -- General Augusto Pinochet's military regime today decided to allocate 2 percent of the national budget to help the victims of the quake that hit Chile on 3 March. This is the figure that the Constitution allocates for natural disasters. A similar amount was allocated in 1984 to help the victims of storms which killed more than 60 persons and left some 160,000 homeless.

FINANCE MINISTER POSTPONES TRIP TO WASHINGTON

PY060221 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] The finance minister has postponed his trip to Washington for 3 days. The minister was supposed to leave for Washington today to begin negotiations with the creditor banks. The text of the communique released by the Finance Ministry reads as follows:

The finance minister has postponed his trip to the United States for 3 days. The purpose of this postponement is so that he will have detailed information on the consequences of the earthquake that recently rocked the central zone of the country when negotiations with the IMF and talks with the creditor banks resume.

NICARAGUAN URBINA LARA ARRIVES IN BOGOTA

PA052339 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Report by Juan Carlos Rincon from the Catam Military Airport in Bogota -- live]

[Text] Jose Manuel Urbina Lara, the young Nicaraguan asylum seeker who, according to his comments, was beaten by his country's authorities has just arrived in Colombia. He will seek refuge in one of the countries that have offered it to him. Those countries include the four member countries of the Contadora Group as well as Spain and Italy.

Here is his initial statement upon arriving at the Catam Military Airport where he was met by Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo: [passage indistinct]

As you can imagine, the situation is very difficult at the Catam Airport. The international press is here to cover the arrival of Jose Manuel Urbina Lara. He is a young man approximately 1.75 meters in height. He is wearing a short-sleeved light blue shirt and [word indistinct] trousers. He was taken from the Sandinist government's security tunnels and immediately taken to the airport from where he was flown to Bogota aboard a Colombian Air Force plane. Urbina will remain in Colombia for 3 days.

It has also been reported that his family had been threatened [words indistinct] by the Sandinist government, threats against him and his family because of his decision to seek asylum in one of the countries that have offered it.

Further Report

PA060104 Paris AFP in Spanish 0002 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 5 Mar (AFP) -- Nicaraguan student Jose Manuel Urbina Lara, whose arrest in Managua nearly provoked the failure of the Contadora Group's efforts, arrived in Bogota today aboard a Colombian military aircraft.

Released 24 hours ahead of schedule by the Sandinist regime, Urbina Lara was the central figure in a dispute between Nicaragua and Costa Rica which claimed that his right to asylum was violated when he was arrested at the doors of the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua on 24 December.

Urbina Lara, looking haggard and wearing a light blue shirt and jeans, was welcomed at Catam Airport in Bogota by Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and the Contadora Group (Panama, Mexico, and Venezuela) ambassadors.

Nicaraguan Ambassador Francisco Quinonez was also present. It was reported that Quinonez was waiting for a Nicaraguan diplomatic official who was traveling in the same Colombian aircraft that transported the refugee.

Cornered by the news media and television camera lights, the student showed a bandaged wound on his left leg that caused him to limp and, he asserted, was inflicted by the Sandinist police. Making his first statements, Urbina said that his departure, scheduled for tomorrow, Wednesday, had been changed "to prevent any contact with his family." He expressed his concern for their welfare.

Urbina pointed out that even though he is an anti-Sandinist, he is not a member of any political organization. However, he confessed that he was linked to the anti-Sandinist Revolutionary Democratic Alliance, ARDE, led by Eden Pastora, adding that he would like to return to his country to fight against the current government.

He revealed that his arrest was based on the false charge that he wanted to evade the draft, even though he was exempt under the law because he is married.

Urbina Lara, who has not decided in which country he will seek political asylum, will remain here several days while he plans his future, even though the Colombian foreign minister stated that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees has offered to assist the Contadora Group in this particular case.

The Colombian minister also asserted his satisfaction and that of the Contadora Group for solving this thorny issue since it will undoubtedly allow renewal of peace-seeking efforts in Central America. "Contadora, as recognized by the international community, is the best way to achieve peace in that region thanks to the political will of the five countries, which have their destiny in their hands," Ramirez said.

Urbina Lara left the airport terminal under strict security measures in an automobile bound for an unknown destination.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON URBINA CASE, AREA CONFLICT

PA052244 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota -- Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi have offered their cooperation to the Contadora Group in finding a solution to the problem between Costa Rica and Nicaragua over a Nicaraguan exile.

Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo said that student Jose Manuel Urbina Lara, whose asylum case brought about the differences between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, could be sent to Italy or Spain according to offers made by the governments of these two countries. This is another alternative for a solution to the diplomatic rift between these two countries, Ramirez Ocampo noted, adding that Gonzalez and Craxi made the offers to President Betancur.

The foreign minister also said that Contadora's path is being cleared of problems and that this will permit the signing of the document for peace in Central America. He said that with Costa Rica's announcement of the expulsion of anti-Sandinist leader Adolfo Calero Portocarrero and the decision to expel Commander Uno from its territory (?2 weeks ago) are returning [words indistinct] right to asylum. The foreign minister made these remarks this morning at the end of a cabinet meeting held at Narino Palace. He said that in regard to Honduras, this country has a very calm negotiating attitude which allow us to think that we can find ways to reconcile the Tegucigalpa document with the original document presented by Contadora on 7 September.

As to the tensions between the United States and Nicaragua, Ramirez Ocampo said that if the countries that have interests in the region, such as Cuba and the United States, do not firmly support the peace process and do not practice this support in reality, the possibilities for an understanding become complicated.

We hope that in view of the detente that we are now observing in comparison to what we have experienced in the past few weeks, the Manzanillo talks, sponsored by Contadora, should resume. I hope that as we resume the Contadora negotiations, the Manzanillo talks between the United States and Nicaragua also continue, Ramirez Ocampo said.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PA052018 Paris AFP in Spanish 1949 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 5 Mar (AFP) -- Dominican Republic President Salvador Jorge Blanco arrived in Bogota at 1930 GMT today on an official 40-hour visit. When Jorge Blanco arrived, amid a heavy downpour, neither Colombian President Belisario Betancur nor Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo were present at the Catam Military Airport in the western part of Bogota. The Dominican Republic president had to wait 5 minutes aboard the aircraft that transported him to Bogota until Betancur and Ramirez arrived in a helicopter.

Jorge Blanco, accompanied by his wife Asela Mera, received the respective 21-gun salute and military honors from the Colombian presidential guard. The two presidents began talks on common and multilateral topics in the Narino (government palace) at 1800 (2300 GMT).

BETANCUR OFFERS AID TO CHILEAN QUAKE VICTIMS

PA051814 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur has offered the Chilean Government any aid needed to alleviate the tragedy that has brought mourning to the country in the wake of an earthquake.

Upon returning from Buenos Aires, the head of state sent a note to President Augusto Pinochet in which he said: In view of the unfortunate earthquake in central Chile, I can do no less than express my solidarity with your people at this time of anguish and grief.

In conclusion, President Betancur's message stated: My government is ready to extend all the help that the brotherly Chilean people might need.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo also sent messages to President Pinochet and Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle in which he expressed his solidarity and encouragement to the Chilean people.

In his message to President Pinochet, Foreign Minister Ramirez Ocampo stated: We fully share the pain of those who have lost their dear relatives in this terrible tragedy. We hope that your country, which has a strong tradition of generosity and progress, will be able to overcome this difficult moment.

In his note to Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle, Ramirez said that the Colombian Government and people extend their encouragement in this dramatic situation. They are also hoping for the quick recovery of those who have suffered the effects of this disaster.

Colombia has instructed its ambassador in Santiago, in consultation with the Chilean Government, to arrange for any cooperation that our country might be able to extend to alleviate the grief of our sister country.

RAMIREZ ON POSSIBILITY OF MARCH CONTADORA MEETING

PA052227 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] I am pleased that a way was found to remove the obstacle before the Contadora Group, thanks to the decision by President Daniel Ortega, said Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo in a telephone interview with this newscast, direct from Bogota. The Colombian foreign minister said that the meeting of plenipotentiaries called by the Contadora Group for 14 and 15 February and postponed due to obstacles presented by the Governments of El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica may be held on 21 and 22 March in Panama City. Ramirez Ocampo considered the meeting between President Ortega and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Montevideo as most important, and said that it offers prospects. The recorded interview with the Colombian foreign minister from Bogota follows:

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] Thanks to Radio Sandino. In fact, we are quite pleased that thanks to the decision by President Daniel Ortega and the Nicaraguan Government the obstacle before the Contadora Group has been removed. Therefore, we expect the Contadora Group meeting, which was previously scheduled for 14 and 15 February, to take place soon. We consider 21-22 March to be a suitable date, although it has not yet been officially confirmed as the date for a plenipotentiaries meeting in Panama to discuss the differences of opinions on the document we presented on 7 September 1984.

[Question] How does your government describe the new peace initiatives made by the Nicaraguan Government?

[Ramirez] They seem most constructive to us. Approximately 1 month ago in Cartagena, the Guatemalan foreign minister proposed that the Central American nations begin unilaterally carrying out some of the basic points contained in the Contadora Document to show their desire for peace. I think that the decision by President Ortega announced in Montevideo follows that proposal when Ortega speaks of starting the withdrawal of foreign military advisers from Nicaragua and affirms that Nicaragua will not increase its present arsenal. This initiative will certainly encourage other Central American nations to do the same. I believe it was a very good decision, as it highly serves the Central American peace process.

[Question] The U.S. Government turned down the peace initiatives made by the Nicaraguan Government. How do you view that decision by the U.S. Government?

[Ramirez] The information in Bogota following the important meeting between President Daniel Ortega and the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz seems to first indicate the renewal of the contact interrupted in Manzanillo, which in itself is most important, and also the clear and direct statement by Secretary Shultz that the United States supports the Contadora efforts, again opens the perspective that with the cooperation of the countries having interests in the region, the peace process should advance. We consider the meeting between Ortega and Shultz most constructive. [end recording]

M-19 CRITICIZES OFFICIAL ATTITUDE ON DIALOGUE

PA051524 Paris AFP in Spanish 0103 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Bogota, 1 Mar (AFP) -- The leftist guerrillas of the nationalist 19 April Movement [M-19] today voiced their strong reservations about the peace process being carried out in Colombia.

The group described the government's demand that they put down their arms in order to engage in political proselytism as "distractive sophism."

In a communique delivered to AFP, the subversive group questioned the substance and reach of the so-called national dialogue that was established by a truce signed in August 1984 with the government of President Belisario Betancur. The document, which bears the signatures of members of the M-19 National Dialogue Commando Unit, warns that "the government is increasingly straying away from peace and democracy."

In reply to recent warnings to the guerrillas from Interior Minister Jaime Castro that the government will not allow the establishment of armed political groups, the M-19 stated that it has no plans to "establish a political party with an armed faction."

The M-19 also accused the Army of violating the truce and held the minister of the interior, defense, and agriculture responsible for "undoing what has been done" within the peace process in Colombia.

In the 5-page communique, the group explained that the path to peace was divided into several phases. The truce and national dialogue are part of the initial phase. They also warned that the future of the peace process depends on how it develops.

The M-19 pointed out: "The dialogue should bring about specific solutions to very specific problems afflicting the homeland today. It should also lead to a democratic transformation in the political, economic, and social sectors." The group censured the attitude of government delegates to the dialogue, who "have turned the dialogue into another forum at which to drink coffee behind closed doors, and have also delayed the work."

The M-19 said: "They have wasted more than 2 years of a government that has been blessed with citizen support during the beginning of those democratic changes. Therefore, the M-19 demanded an attitude change to bring the national dialogue out of the "straitjacket in which they plan to keep it" and reiterated that they are members of a movement that acts "facing the people, without being deceitful or two-faced."

The M-19 believes that because of the current social crisis, Colombia "cannot afford any more delays," and therefore, an emergency plan must be implemented immediately to consolidate the current phase of the peace process." "Peace can only come about with specific, quick, and efficient changes."

The M-19 called on the various social classes to "take the national dialogue in our hands to avoid letting down millions of compatriots." The M-19 finally said: "Another frustration would dump the homeland into an unimaginable abyss."

MEAT EXPORTS TO EEC COUNTRIES REACTIVATED

PA011554 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] Bogota -- Agriculture Minister Gustavo Castro Guerrero has announced that meat trade has been reactivated with EEC countries. He said France entered this market through its embassy in Colombia by sending a note expressing its decision to resume meat purchases after overcoming sanitation problems that had previously forced suspension of this trade. Colombia will take steps to create a modern infrastructure that will meet EEC's demands.

PERSONALITIES OPPOSE INTERVENTION IN NICARAGUA

PA051538 Paris AFP in Spanish 1602 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Quito, 2 Mar (AFP) -- A letter issued today advocating peace, which was signed by a former OAS general secretary, former presidents, presidents of congress and the supreme court, bishops, and political, university and labor leaders of Ecuador, expressed "total disagreement with the possible armed interventions of other countries" into Nicaragua.

Those signing the letter noted: "Peace is being threatened in various places in Latin America, especially in Central American countries.

"The real possibility that the conflict may spread with the participation of outside forces will result in incalculable and tragic consequences for the lives and development of our peoples."

The signatories include former Presidents Oswaldo Hurtado and Galo Plaza, who is also a former OAS secretary general, Congress President Raul Baca; Supreme Court President Gonzalo Cordova; two bishops; four former foreign ministers; directors of newspapers; university rectors; labor leaders; leaders of the journalism sector and human rights organizations; provincial officials; and other well-known personalities.

They added: "We express our faith in a democratic life and in the right that the peoples have to choose, sovereignly and independently, the forms and systems of government most advisable for them and which respond to their problems and realities."

"We express our total disagreement with possible armed intervention by other countries into Nicaragua and note our total opposition to the aggressions of one nation against another, regardless of the ideology of their governments," those signing the document added, urging all sectors of the society to sign this letter for peace.

The document was issued following a visit on Thursday by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Guayaquil, where he met with Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero during a 3-hour stopover on his way to Montevideo to attend the Uruguayan President Julio Sanguinetti's inauguration.

At a brief press conference, Shultz criticized the Sandinist regime of Nicaragua and praised regional democratization, mentioning the case of Brazil and Uruguay. His visit prompted a statement from the Latin American Human Rights Association (ALDHU), headed by former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, an organization that also signed the letter in favor of peace.

ALDHU criticized the United States for praising a country's return to democracy and "simultaneously violating the right that the Nicaraguans have to their self-determination and refusing to give the Chilean people the support they need" to achieve the same goal.

It also criticized the support that Langhorne Motley, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, expressed for the Chilean regime of General Augusto Pinochet.

PLRA, PRF LEADERS ARRESTED AFTER YOUTH FORUM

PY042130 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1753 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Posadas, 4 Mar (TELAM) -- At least eight leaders of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA] and of the Febrerist Revolutionary Party [PRF] of Paraguay were arrested between yesterday and today by police personnel while trying to return to their country after participating in Posadas in the first international forum of the political youth movements of the region.

In that meeting, organized by the Misiones Radical Civic Union youth, youth leaders of the democratic political parties of Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina discussed various aspects of the Latin American status quo, and issued a document in defense of the democratic system and condemning the dictatorial regimes.

According to party sources, the Paraguayan detainees include: Jose Luis Zaldivar and Celso Velazquez of the PLRA, and Diana Vanuelos, Victor Benitez, and Victor Dure, of the PRF. These political leaders and three others who have not yet been identified, are reportedly being held at the local government's police headquarters in Encarnacion, a Paraguayan city across from Posadas on the Parana River.

CPT in Exile Repudiates Arrest

PY052145 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0258 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (EFE) -- The Paraguayan Confederation of Workers (CPT) in exile today repudiated the decision of the Alfredo Stroessner government to arrest young politicians who participated in a regional forum held in Argentina. In a communique, the CPT in exile stated that Stroessner has offended Latin America's youth by arresting young representatives of the Paraguayan democratic community.

The detainees, who belong to several political organizations in Paraguay, participated in the first forum of political youth from Argentina, Paraguay, Brazil, and Uruguay. The forum was held in the city of Misiones and was sponsored by the Argentine Radical Civic Union.

The autocratic Paraguayan regime, which is known for this type of decision and for violating human rights, is becoming isolated in a region where democracy is progressing, as in Argentina, Uruguay, and very soon in Brazil, the communique stated.

The CPT in exile, whose communique bears the signature of Secretary General Basilio Gonzalez Hermosilla, said that the policy of not tolerating even the slightest expression of freedom remains in effect in Paraguay. The Paraguayan political, cultural, and trade union organizations energetically repudiate this outrage upon the Paraguayan youth and denounce to the conscience of free men the ruthless repression of the Stroessner dictatorship, the communique stated.

The eight representatives of the Paraguayan political youth are being held in detention in the city of Encarnacion, Paraguay, which lies across the Parana River from Posadas. They were arrested after they returned to their country this past weekend at the conclusion of the forum.

Argentine Deputy Protests Arrest

PY051812 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0348 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentine Deputy Jesus Rodriguez today asked Paraguayan President General Alfredo Stroessner to release the seven members of Paraguayan political parties which participated in the recent International Forum of Political Youth Movements in Misiones, Argentina.

The telegram sent to Gen Stroessner protests the arrest of the young politicians who were returning after participating in the forum. It is signed by Jesus Rodriguez, Mario Negri, and Pablo Soria, who are the president, vice president, and secretary general of the National Radical Youth Committee, respectively. The message demands the immediate release of leaders Jose Zaldivar, Celso Velazquez, Diana Vanuelos, Victor Dure, Aristides Pereira, Atilio Caceres, and Soraya Saguia. The message says that the arrests violate the most elemental human, civil, and political rights of any regime that calls itself democratic. You will be responsible before Latin America and your people for the consequences of this action, the telegram concludes.

Arrested Youths Released

PY052302 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 5 Mar 85 p 12

[Excerpt] The nine youths who were arrested by government authorities in Encarnacion on 3 March upon returning from Posadas were released last night. In Posadas, Misiones Province, the youths had participated in an international forum of political youth movements sponsored by the Radical Civic Union.

PRF spokesmen this morning reported that the following persons were released: Diana Vanuelos, national secretary of the Revolutionary Febrerist Youth, and Victor Dure, Victor Benitez, Soraya Saguia, Aristides Pereira, Atilio Caceres, and Carlos Medina, also members of the organization. All of them had gone to Posadas to attend the youth forum and stayed there on Saturday, 2 March, and Sunday, 3 March. Upon returning to Paraguay, they were arrested by government authorities.

Gaspar R. Zelada and Anibal Carrillo Iramain have released a communique on behalf of the Febrerist Revolutionary Youth repudiating the arrest and calling for freedom of action for all young politicians.

The authorities last night also released Jose Luis Zaldivar and Celso Velazquez of the "Liberation and Social Justice" movement of the JLRA, who also attended the international forum in Posadas.

The movement to which these youths belong released a communique on their arrest. Among other things, it stated that "we repudiate this type of action, which only jeopardizes the democratization process in Paraguay, which is an irreversible process that will be consolidated through true integration with other Latin American nations." This communique was signed by Carlos Mateo Balmelli and Maria Jose Rolon.

The "Carlos Caballero Gatti" movement of the PRF has also issued a statement on the arrest of the nine youths. This statement indicated that "events of this kind are characteristic of strong-arm regimes that seek to retain the obedience of their minions through repression."

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA STOPS OVER, MAKES STATEMENT

PY051157 Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega on 4 March expressed confidence that the Contadora Group can strengthen peace in Central America. Daniel Ortega made a stopover at Jorge Chavez Airport on his way home after attending the Uruguayan presidential inauguration. The Nicaraguan president was met at the airport by President Belaunde Terry.

[Begin Ortega recording -- broadcast in progress] ...the U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments to continue the Manzanillo talks so that relations are normalized because, logically, Manzanillo had turned into an important, necessary, and indispensable supplement to the Contadora process. We believe that as the Contadora process is strengthened, this new instance...[rephrases] The U.S. has the opportunity to demonstrate that it supports the Contadora Group by returning to the talks in Manzanillo so that we can negotiate a normalization of relations which, undisputably, would strengthen the peace efforts being made by the Contadora Group.

BELAUNDE DISCUSSES TRIP TO BOLIVIA, FOREIGN DEBT

PY060026 Lima Television Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Press conference held by President Fernando Belaunde on the evening of 4 March; place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Veronica (D'Agostelo) of Lima OAY-4Z Television. Mr President, concerning two neighboring countries: You have sent a message of solidarity to Chile. What will the Peruvian nation do for the brotherly Chilean nation, which is suffering [words indistinct]. In addition, are you traveling to Bolivia, and when?

[Belaunde] Concerning my trip to the Altiplano, it will take place next weekend, God willing.

[Question] Luis (Fruter) of the newspaper MARKA. Mr President, two questions. First, what is your opinion on the United Left's proposal to declare a selective moratorium on the payment of the foreign debt. And second, what is your opinion of the fact that a newsman has again been the victim of the irresponsibility of a member of the police force?

[Belaunde] I will start by answering your second question. As soon as I learned about the incident, the most severe instructions were issued so that the appropriate sanctions can calmly be imposed. The information that I have been given this morning indicates that this incident took place in a bar. This [word indistinct] with the extenuating circumstance, but the aggravating circumstance of alcohol. Therefore, this case has been placed at the disposal of the Attorney General's Office. This is an extremely serious crime, and, just as we are generous in rewarding the good deeds of public servants -- looking after widows, as we have done in the extremely painful cases of families that have lost their men, especially in Santa Rosa, where we gave beautiful chalets to these widows -- we must also be very severe in punishing their every crime. A crime is even more serious when it is committed by a uniformed man, because a uniform should symbolize the protection of the society which organized the police institution to defend it.

Concerning the moratorium, this is an extremely delicate issue, one that must be discussed with a sense of great responsibility. It should not be a show of bravado.

One must see what reaction an action produces, because in politics and in the economy, the physical law applies: Every action produces a reaction. We depend on the credits, not only to a certain extent in state matters, but especially in private activities. Commerce lives on credit, the credit granted by its suppliers. That credit cannot be placed in jeopardy because that would prompt a great collapse of the economy. Therefore, this must be thoroughly considered. I have proposed a formula to the United Nations to (?settle the debt), a serious formula which, at the beginning did not arouse our creditor's interest precisely because it is serious and not an open-handed formula. We talked about issuing multinational bonds to pay that part of the debt that we could not pay in cash when due. It is possible to arrive at this kind of solution. The governments, especially the democratic ones, that have been established and are being established throughout the continent are getting closer to a joint solution. Having to face problems as the one I have just mentioned and cases which demand immediate responsibility, the government are proceeding cautiously, not hastily. However, I do not rule out the possibility that a time of complete convergence, economic convergence, will present itself, thus giving rise to all-inclusive measures, measures that will be made from greater strength, a strength derived from the Latin American unity.

[Question] Romulo (Trujillo) of the newspaper HOY. Mr President, the government has ordered a 10-percent increase in the salaries and wages of the [word indistinct] workers, but the cost of living has outstripped it. Is the government thinking of a new increase?

[Belaunde] Yes, the government must be very cautious. As I have already said, an outgoing government can afford to be very bold and quote generous unquote, because [words indistinct] a call to be generous with somebody else's goods since we are not paying from our own pockets. This money comes from the collective pocket of the Peruvian people. To order measures that appear generous could make the situation unmanageable for the next government. [end recording]

Meeting of Presidential Candidates

PY041456 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] President Fernando Belaunde yesterday announced that a meeting with the presidential candidates calling on the workers to achieve a peaceful atmosphere in the labor sector during the elections will be held soon. Belaunde also stated that tranquillity and an attitude favoring dialogue now prevails in the electoral race. I believe that the strain has diminished considerably, the president of the Republic stated.

TRADE UNIONS ANNOUNCE STOPPAGES; DEMAND RAISES

PY041458 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Several trade unions have announced stoppages beginning today and tomorrow to demand salary improvements and other claims. The so-called Intersectorial Confederation of State Workers [CITE], the Trade Union of Lima Municipal Workers, the Trade Union Center, and the Federated Center of the Peruvian Institute of Social Security Workers are among the organizations.

It has been announced that the Lima white-collar municipal workers, who are asking for a 10-percent increase in the country's general budget for the local governorships, a solution for their basic claims, and so on, will begin a strike today.

The economy secretary of the CITE, Rosa Novoa (Aleta), has stated that the trade union sectors of that labor organization will indefinitely stop their activities beginning tomorrow, asking for a monthly 810,000-soles increase, the reinstatement of dismissed workers, and the appointment of [words indistinct].

BARRANTES FAVORS 5-YEAR MORATORIUM ON DEBT

PY011413 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] United Left presidential candidate Alfonso Barrantes has stated that the foreign debt must be renegotiated on political terms since responsibility rests not only with debtor countries, but also with creditor countries which gladly loaned the money.

He added: If I am elected, I will enforce a selective moratorium for no less than 5 years. Barrantes made this statement at Jorge Chaves International Airport minutes before leaving for Montevideo, Uruguay, where he will attend the inauguration of Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

Barrantes noted that the money saved from foreign debt payments will be used to promote the recovery of the agricultural sector since our nation needs food. Barrantes noted that the government imports food worth about \$1 billion and that 62 percent of Peruvians suffer from malnutrition. He reasserted that 40 percent of the income obtained from national exports are used to pay the foreign debt and that this amount must be used to promote the economic recovery of the agricultural sector.

PRIVATE SECTOR WORKERS GET WAGE INCREASE

PY021740 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 0130 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Labor Minister Joaquin Leguia Galvez has announced that private sector workers who are not members of labor union will get a wage increase as of 1 March.

[Begin recording] The salary increase as of 1 March is 10 percent of the total wage paid on 28 February 1985, not including the transportation bonus. [end recording]

SANGUINETTI TAKES STEPS TO PACIFY COUNTRY

PY060028 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0836 GMT 5 Mar 85

[By Alberto Pepe Leira]

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Mar (EFE) -- Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti has enacted a series of measures aimed at pacifying the country. These measures include guaranteeing freedom of the press, pardoning persons on trial by military courts, and ordering the closing of a political prison. These decisions were announced during the new government's first day of work, after the numerous ceremonies which marked Uruguay's return to democracy on 1 March.

Total freedom of the press went into effect immediately with the lifting of restrictions on international news agencies, the termination of censorship on foreign publications, and the authorization for all radio and television stations to engage in all types of journalistic efforts without having to record all programs in advance.

The president's next step was to dismiss trials before the military courts, pardoning dozens of persons charged with subversive activities who were awaiting sentences, particularly military officers punished during the de facto regime.

For legal and constitutional reasons, the president could not pardon already sentenced cases, such as that of former General Liber Seregni, who was sentenced to 14 years of imprisonment and loss of pension. Seregni spent almost 10 years in prison and was released on 26 March 1984. To resolve the situation of those already sentenced, an amnesty bill, whose limits Congress is currently discussing, must be approved.

The new Uruguayan democratic government has also closed down the No 2 Military Prison, where women charged with belonging to the Tupamaro guerrilla organization were being held. After the prison was shut down, some 30 inmates were taken to the Montevideo police jail. A long line of military ambulances and vehicles arrived at the civilian prison. The No 2 Military Prison was one of the establishments that social organizations had vehemently denounced because of the inhuman treatment to which the inmates were subjected.

It was noted that several prisoners who arrived at the Montevideo jail were very ill, as the relatives of political prisoners had reported, since ambulances were used to transport them.

Relatives and representatives of social organizations staged a demonstration during the transfer of prisoners, chanting slogans against the military and calling for a general and unrestricted amnesty.

Sanguinetti's press office issued a message explaining that the decisions were made within the framework to pacify the country.

Defense Minister Juan Vicente Chiarino will today check on the situation in the No 1 Military Prison in Libertad, 60 km west of Montevideo, where more than 200 Tupamaro guerrillas are being held.

[Madrid EFE in Spanish at 1740 GMT on 5 March carried the following information: "Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti has pardoned National Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate and dismissed the case against him in the military court. Sanguinetti did the same for other civilians and military men whose trials were pending. This was one of the first steps of Sanguinetti's democratic government which took office on 1 March."]

REINSTATED COMMUNIST LEADERS CRITICIZE PRESIDENT

PY060006 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0310 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 4 Mar (EFE) -- In their first press conference after the constitutional government restored their political rights, the leaders of the Uruguayan Communist Party [PCU] demanded general and unrestricted amnesty, a congressional investigation into cases of torture, and criticized President Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

Rodney Arismendi, secretary general of the PCU, described the harassment, bans, banishments, mutilations, and tortures to which the party was subject during the nearly 12 years of the dictatorship.

According to Arismendi, the country must become independent of the IMF, and he suggested a moratorium on the payment of the foreign debt.

One of the first steps that Sanguinetti took after his inauguration on 1 March was, fulfilling his electoral promise of restoring legal status to all parties and labor, cultural, and other types of organizations banned by the dictatorship.

In addition to the PCU, the Inter-Workers Union Plenum (PIT) and the National Confederation of Workers (CNT), the two largest workers associations in the country, the Federation of University Students (FEU), the El Galpon theater company, and others recovered their rights.

The recently released Communist leader Jaime Perez has claimed that if the Broad Front, a left-wing coalition to which the PCU belongs, had won the elections, the current commanders in chief of the Armed Forces would have been removed, but Sanguinetti chose to keep them in their posts.

Jorge Mazarovich, a Communist youth leader who served a prison term under the military regime, has announced that the party will support any congressional investigations into the tortures and other abnormalities that occurred during the military administration.

The PCU was founded in 1920 and its ideology is based on Leninism and the Soviet revolution. The dictatorship banned the PCU and arrested several of its leaders, some of whom are still in prison awaiting either a shortening of their prison term or a favorable decision on the general amnesty bill that Congress is currently drafting.

FOREIGN MINISTER'S VIEWS ON ECONOMY, CHILE

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 26 Feb 85 pp A 1, A 10

[Text] Enrique Iglesias, former executive secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLA), who on 1 March will assume his duties as Uruguayan foreign minister, said yesterday that the principle of nonintervention will be one of the basic tenets of the next Uruguayan Government's foreign policy. Therefore, it will be on that basis that Chilean-Uruguayan relations will develop.

During a farewell press conference, the Uruguayan official noted that the economic adjustments that have been implemented in countries throughout the region in the last few years "have been inevitable" considering the prevailing regional economic conditions. But he added that many nations will not be able to bear similar measures without serious social and political problems.

Iglesias noted that in his capacity as an official of the next Uruguayan Government, he will insist on the need to establish a political dialogue regarding the foreign debt with creditor countries, adding that this does not imply promoting the establishment of debtors club.

Norberto Gonzalez has been appointed to replace Iglesias as ECLA executive secretary, a post he held for almost 13 years.

Iglesias said: "We believe in the principle of nonintervention, which is one of the basic tenets of Uruguayan foreign policy. It will be on this basis that we shall develop Chilean-Uruguayan relations."

Enrique Iglesias, who will leave for Montevideo on 27 February, noted that "there is no better example of friendship between two nations than that of Chile and Uruguay. There are strong ties uniting the two nations at all levels. Moreover, our two nations have always been examples of democratic, civil, cultural and ethical traditions."

He said that relations between the two countries have and will continue to be "cordial" and that "we certainly have our own views regarding our problems."

Iglesias said that Uruguayan foreign policy will be based on the principles of international justice and nonintervention; on the search for just and equitable solutions to international problems, particularly those concerning economic issues, and in keeping with Latin American traditions.

He said that "Uruguayan foreign policy will fall within the framework of Latin American traditions and that it will be characterized as a universal policy that upholds international institutions and international dialogue in the greatest sense of that word."

Asked about the impact of the economic adjustments that have been made over the past few years, Enrique Iglesias noted that these measures "were inevitable" in view of the important changes that took place, such as the international interest rates and the exchange terms resulting from the high indebtedness in the 1970's and the 1980's.

Iglesias said: "It would be inconceivable to think of easy adjustments. They are inevitable; they are and will continue to subject us to inevitable austerity. Some countries are responding or undertaking timid economic recoveries, but I believe that Latin America will be unable to bare similar shocks without experiencing social and political problems. This is why it is important to think that the only alternative for Latin America is to develop, to grow, and to reactivate its economy in keeping with the moderation established by foreign creditors."

He added that there is no incompatibility between efforts made to seek solutions with creditor countries and long-term political actions aimed at improving conditions in keeping with what many countries are carrying out in economic adjustment processes.

Iglesias noted that "up to now this has been a frustrating dialogue since we have yet been unable to coordinate positions and obtain a specific answer from Western countries, but I believe that people are aware that we have overcome the 'panic' of the recent past. Latin America is in a condition to undertake a far more constructive dialogue with creditor countries regarding not only the debt, but also problems affecting the entire economic package. It will be a more constructive dialogue if we are able to discuss issues pertaining to trade, the flow of capital, and private investments. I believe that we shall insist on the spirit of the Cartagena group, with which we are deeply identified at the government and personal level. Moreover, we shall insist on the need to establish a political dialogue with creditor countries, but this does not imply promoting the establishment of a debtors club, which may be an ideal, but an unrealistic one."

"We must also insist on the need to improve international aid so as to help us achieve development more rapidly but without overlooking domestic political responsibilities."

The former ECLA official also thanked both national and foreign news media for the cooperation extended to him personally and to his organization.

"I would like to sincerely thank everyone and through you the Chilean people as a whole for constant interest in and encouragement for our efforts."

Iglesias indicated that he was leaving the organization at a very special time in Latin American history.

"On one hand, there is a joyful and healthy return to democracy in many American nations among which is, fortunately, my own country. On the other hand, we are facing a very severe and violent crisis, the worst in 50 years. We are living in a changing world which compels us, as never before, to react to and keep in step with developments, but this changing world is full of hope as well."

He admitted that the reinstatement of democratic systems "is a difficult task, full of obstacles and limitations because of all the factors which today complicate the states' choices and reduce their decision making power and the benefits it can offer. Thus, democracy currently must struggle staunchly to defend itself, to prove that its institutions are feasible, and especially to make everyone's dreams come true and help overcome the daily difficulties. However, all this is possible and it has to be possible because democracy is the natural atmosphere for all of us in Latin America."

Upon being asked for an account of ECLA's contributions to member countries, the official explained that this organization is "at the height of its performance in Latin America. It has strived hard to play a significant role and to bring its concerns to the attention of both governments and the people at large; and it has always tried to be objective, pluralistic and permanently loyal to the main principles of the United Nations. I believe that this organization will continue fulfilling its main missions; I am leaving it in good hands."

GENERAL BEROIS REPORTEDLY TO HEAD I ARMY CORPS

PY051723 Paris AFP in Spanish 1411 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Montevideo, 5 Mar (AFP) -- Political sources today revealed in Montevideo that General Carlos Berois, a constitutionalist military officer, will soon take over as commander of the I Army Corps in Uruguay after the incumbent, General Julio Cesar Bonelli, resigned on 1 March.

Berois is currently acting as director of the war college and headed the military forces which paraded for President Julio Sanguinetti at his inauguration.

Berois also was formerly military attache at the Uruguayan Embassy in Washington.

The advent of Berois as the I Army Corps commander will be the first appointment of a military leader made by the constitutional government.

COCINA ADVOCATES STRIKE AGAINST GOVERNMENT

PA052027 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Mar 85 p 2 A

[Communique issued by the Panamanian Coordinating Board for National Civilianization, Cocina, in Panama City 27 February]

[Text] Once again the corrupt and squandering government that is run and sustained by the military elite with the blessing of the United States, in open disregard of the people's cries, is attempting to conceal its antidemocratic and antipopular endeavors by imposing new taxes that will further weaken the nation's economy and bring more despair and hunger to Panamanian families. The Coordinating Board for National Civilianization, which since its emergence has uninterruptedly and unwaveringly fought to ward off new taxes, improve moral quality of public administration, recover funds that were obtained illegally, and reduce the budget of the National Defense Forces is compelled -- by virtue of its commitment to the Panamanian people, who have massively supported us -- to reiterate that it emphatically objects to all measures which, far from promoting genuine development, are designed to satisfy the demands of the IMF and the World Bank and accentuate the militarization of Panamanian society.

Cocina hereby warns the Panamanian people that these taxes are but a link in the long chain of tax measures, increases in the staples' prices, massive layoffs, and repression, through which the government intends to strangle family budgets while continuing to implement its antinational policies. In response to substantial proof that the government refused to heed people's protests against its policy of corruption and squandering and that it plans to continue exercising complete control over the Legislative Assembly, manipulating it to legalize its new tax package, Cocina urges all opposition legislators not to be a party to these new tax measures and abandon the legislative halls to protest the total subservience of that body to the military elite.

Cocina also urges the National Council of Private Enterprise, the Chamber of Commerce, the Panamanian Association of Business Executives, the Panamanian Industrialists Union, the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Panama Banking Association, and all Panamanian business groups which have expressed their opposition to the new tax measures not to limit their protests to communiques, but to adopt more forceful measures, such as staggered strikes and a moratorium on tax payments. Measures of this nature constitute a more authentic and tangible opposition to the new taxes with which the government seeks to further burden the people. Meanwhile, we believe that political parties have not been up to par with the situation. They have not proposed viable alternatives to resolve the profound crisis that is affecting all fields of national endeavor. It is unacceptable that their goals do not transcend Cocina's. Political parties are expected to confront current circumstances with responsibility and determination.

Cocina, aware that its commitment does not end with changing our leaders' policies, patriotically calls on all labor, peasant, and ethnic groups and on all the Panamanian people to step up organization and unity for a general strike. This is the only effective way to finally attain implementation of the four points enunciated by Cocina. Cocina once again takes to the streets the authentic people's forum. Our first concrete measure will be a rally at the Republic of Venezuela School on Monday, 4 March at 1700. Thereafter, Cocina will issue guidelines for subsequent actions until the Panamanian people achieve their definitive victory.

[Signed] Dr Mauro Zuniga, coordinator

COSTA RICAURBINA FREE; GOVERNMENT ENDORSES CONTADORA FORUM

PA060248 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] Nicaraguan refugee Jose Manuel Urbina Lara, sought by the Costa Rican Government and the person who caused the Contadora Group to face serious difficulties, was released at noon and traveled to Bogota, Colombia this evening. This information was confirmed by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez, who spoke via telephone with his Colombian counterpart, Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, who informed him that the refugee's release date had been changed for security reasons. The Sandinist regime had originally announced that Urbina Lara would be turned over to the Contadora Group ambassadors in Managua on Wednesday of this week.

Costa Rica has informed the Contadora Group countries that it will immediately return to that forum, and (?requested) that the next meeting be scheduled as soon as possible. Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that the confirmation of Urbina Lara's release happily ends a conflict that emerged from the violation of the right to asylum.

Having overcome the problems that prevented Costa Rica's participation in the last Contadora Group meeting scheduled for 14 February, Costa Rica is willing to participate in future meetings to continue discussing the Contadora Group Document. This was stated in a message sent today to Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda of Mexico and Foreign Minister Fernando Cardoze of Panama, Augusto Ramirez Ocampo of Colombia, and Isidro Morales Paul of Venezuela by Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez. The message was sent after Jose Manuel Urbina Lara's release was officially announced by the Nicaraguan Government and he was sent to Colombia, thus fulfilling Costa Rica's demands.

Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez sent several messages to the Honduran and Salvadoran Governments this afternoon thanking them for their solidarity with our country during the conflict with Nicaragua. Upon officially reporting Urbina Lara's release, the foreign minister told these governments that Costa Rica is willing to attend Contadora Group meetings. Honduras and El Salvador supported Costa Rica's decision not to attend Contadora Group meetings until Urbina Lara was released, thus respecting the treaties and conventions signed and ratified by the Central American nations.

The technical group studying and analyzing the observations described as [word indistinct] Contadora Group, Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica will meet in our capital next Thursday. The meeting was scheduled for 13 February, when the foreign ministers of the three countries met here and decided not to attend the Contadora Group meeting scheduled for 14 February in Panama. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said that next week several Contadora Group and Central American foreign ministers [words indistinct] the Contadora Group meeting could not be held.

The release of refugee Urbina Lara will contribute to achieving detente in the Central American region, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said. Gutierrez said that this liberation has an immediate effect because it eliminates the restriction that Costa Rica had imposed on attending the Contadora Group meetings, and it will allow a possible reinitiation of the joint Costa Rica-Nicaragua commission's work. Furthermore, said Foreign Minister Gutierrez, Urbina Lara's release facilitates the Contadora Group's work and increases its prestige.

MONCE NOTES OTHER PROBLEMS WITH NICARAGUA

PA050411 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] The release of Nicaraguan refugee Jose Manuel Urbina Lara does not mean that all problems with Nicaragua have been solved, President Luis Alberto Monge said. There is a long, tragic list of incidents and frequent problems with Nicaragua, but we are willing to discuss them bilaterally or submit them to the Contadora Group or to any other organization, President Monge explained.

Monge said that although some opposition sectors insist that the incidents with Nicaragua should be submitted to the OAS, they do not realize that the OAS will pass them to the Contadora Group.

DETAILS OF PENAS BLANCAS INCIDENT UNCLEAR

PA050202 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Costa Rican authorities do not know what happened last weekend on the northern border of our country in Penas Blancas, where Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, spokesmen announced the occupation of the border post for several hours. In this respect Colonel Oscar Vidal, director of our public forces, said:

[Begin recording] Regarding the events that reportedly occurred in Penas Blancas last week, I want to say that the Costa Rican authorities have no information, or at least specific data, on what happened on the Nicaraguan side in Penas Blancas. ARDE sources cited in some news reports said that the organization occupied Penas Blancas for a few hours. However, no incidents were reported on the Costa Rican side of the border and there were no reports on the entry of a group of activists or any fighting that would indicate confrontation occurred. All of this reportedly occurred on the Nicaraguan side of the border. The Sandinist forces have not talked with our border forces regarding what happened and the government in Managua has neither accepted nor denied that anything occurred. Therefore, we have little or no information on what they report as having occurred over the weekend in Penas Blancas.

[Reporter] What can you tell us about the additional refugees that entered the country this weekend?

[Vidal] This is something that increases as the days pass. It worries our government and also concerns us since we make the initial contact. Every day approximately 18 refugees enter the country through the Atlantic as well as Pacific border posts. However, there have been no mass crossings on either side. [end recording]

PVP CONDEMNS FOREIGN POLICY, COMPLICITY WITH U.S.

PA040420 San Jose LIBERTAD REVOLUCIONARIA in Spanish 22 Feb-1 Mar 85 p 4

[Declaration issued by the Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Popular Vanguard Party [PVP], 16-17 February]

[Text] The Costa Rican Government is threatening to adopt diplomatic measures against Nicaragua under the pretext of defending the right to asylum.

Actually those measures are already being applied. The Costa Rican Government, together with the Salvadoran and Honduran dictatorships, decided to boycott the meeting of the Contadora Group. Now they are threatening to adopt new measures that will increase tension in Central America to a very dangerous level. This violent attitude adopted by our government shows its open complicity with U.S. attacks and provocations.

How can President Monge's government, which has so loudly proclaimed its neutrality, claim to be defending the right of asylum, while allowing thousands of Nicaraguan refugees and asylum seekers to establish themselves in our country as mercenaries of the U.S. Government ready to attack Nicaragua? Isn't this the most blatant violation of the right of asylum?

Nicaraguan refugees and asylum seekers arm themselves, train, conspire, violate our laws, and commit crimes in the northern areas of our country. They openly maintain camps along the border, from where they attack Nicaragua in a campaign that has lasted more than 3 years, inflicted hundreds of dead and wounded, and caused immeasurable damage.

These facts, which no one tries to hide any longer, have been published here and abroad in minute detail. The accusations have been so numerous and scandalous that it is impossible to deny the activities of the CIA and its mercenaries in our country.

A government that tolerates such activities has no moral authority to make an issue out of a case such as Urbina Lara's, a case which falls exclusively under the purview of Nicaragua's legitimate government and has nothing to do with the principles of the right of asylum.

The provocations and aggressive measures conducted by our country in agreement with the United States extend to other, no less dangerous fields. An example is the installation of a transmission station for the powerful Voice of America aimed at attacking and destabilizing the Nicaraguan Government.

The battleship Iowa carrying 36 missiles with nuclear warheads is visiting our country, accompanied by another warship. This dangerous and strange visit is another provocation against Nicaragua; it violates our sovereignty and soils our national dignity. There are constant reports about increased military aid to Costa Rica, and the U.S. ambassador has announced plans to install factories to assemble military equipment here.

A government that participates in such provocative and aggressive acts lacks the authority to turn an issue such as the Urbina Lara case into a definitive obstacle to the continuation of the peace talks. If the Nicaraguan Government wanted to hinder the talks and claimed violation of international law by Costa Rica, it would find an infinitely greater number of cases and more serious motives than the ones we have detailed.

Besides, the Urbina Lara case falls under the provisions of the Havana convention, of which Costa Rica is a signatory nation. The Havana convention does not admit the granting of asylum to deserters from military service. To make matters worse, the alleged asylum seeker voluntarily left the embassy and place himself under the jurisdiction of Nicaraguan law.

We believe that President Monge's government should think carefully of the highly dangerous course through which it is leading our foreign policy. It is presently heading down a blind alley.

The Central Committee calls on the people to express by every means available their disagreement with the measures that are bringing our country closer to war. We call on the people to strongly oppose the warlike and interventionist policy preached by a few maniacs. We must listen to the people's voice against intervention and war, and in favor of peace and solidarity among nations that have always been like brothers.

EL SALVADOR

GEN VESSEY INTRODUCES GALVIN TO HIGH COMMAND

PA051805 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 4 Mar 85 pp 3, 40

[Text] General John W. Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived in El Salvador on Saturday to introduce General John R. Galvin, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command, to the Salvadoran Armed Forces high command.

The U.S. officers arrived at noon at the Ilopango Military Airport, from where they were taken to the Defense Ministry and later to the Joint General Staff. Gen Vessey and Gen Galvin met with Gen Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova and Gen Adolfo O. Blandon.

The high-ranking U.S. officers exchanged views with their Salvadoran colleagues for 45 minutes. They discussed matters related to the military situation of the region, especially El Salvador.

Gen John R. Galvin has replaced General Paul Gorman, who 2 months ago, before retiring from the office of commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command, visited El Salvador to say good-bye to President Jose Napoleon Duarte and the other members of the Armed Forces high command.

The visitors returned to the Ilopango Military Airport at 1530 and left for another country in the region or for Panama. This information was supplied by military spokesmen who were asked about the visit.

FPL ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON STRUGGLE, GOALS

PA050111 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Communique issued by the Central Committee of the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces, FPL, in Chalatenango on 1 March]

[Text] To the people of El Salvador and the world:

The Central Committee of the Farabundo Marti, FPL, a member of the FMLN, reports to the working people, the Salvadoran patriotic, democratic and revolutionary forces, and the people of the world that recently we successfully held in Chalatenango Department [3-second break in transmission] rearguard of the FMLN the plenary meeting of this Central Committee, the highest leadership body of our party, the Farabundo Marti FPL.

This event constitutes a forceful victory for our people's struggle against their enemies and takes place within the framework of the deepening of the war and the advance of the revolution to victory. At the same time, it again uncovers the campaign of lies that Duarte, the high command, and their oligarchic and imperialist masters has used to try to make the people and the world believe that they are winning the war.

After analyzing the status of the war with great revolutionary responsibility and within the context of the national and international situation, this Central Committee reached the following conclusions:

1. The Reagan administration continues to promote a warmongering policy in Central America with the objective of crushing our peoples' desires for liberation and maintaining its domination in alliance with the local oligarchies and puppet governments.
2. The policy carried out by the counterinsurgent, puppet, and reformist government headed by Napoleon Duarte and Christian Democracy, and the military strategy and tactics implemented by the fascist high command against the people and their struggle for social justice, peace, and freedom fall within that same framework.
3. Therefore, our country's economic, political, and military dependence on the United States has rapidly increased with Napoleon Duarte's assumption of power.
4. Despite all of the political-military attempts by the Reagan administration, the high command, and the Duarte government, the war in El Salvador favors the FDR-FMLN in the political-military field. Even though it has grown and has blindly followed the strategic and tactical leadership of the North Americans, and even though it has increased its firepower, the puppet Army has been unable to reduce the FMLN's combat potential, much less seize the areas under FMLN control. It has also been unable to prevent the erosion of its forces. In 1984 the Army sustained more than 5,000 casualties, 50 of its officers fell in combat, and it lost more than 900 weapons.

In the military field, the FMLN has a skilled army with experience accumulated in hundreds of battles against the puppet forces. New theaters of operation have emerged and they have been extended to the main cities. We maintain a level of recovery, we continuously weaken the enemy forces, and we maintain tactical initiative.

In the political field, the regime has been unable to resolve the grave economic crisis and its severe contradictions. It has also been unable to erode the social base of the revolutionary democratic movement. On the contrary, the masses, which increasingly bear the brunt of the economic crisis, are promoting greater struggles. There were approximately 120 labor conflicts in 1984. They brought to the streets hundreds of thousands of workers struggling for their demands. President Jose Napoleon Duarte's incapacity and lack of interest in continuing and intensifying the reforms have been evident; as well as in clearing up the situation of the thousands of missing and murdered people and in bringing those responsible to trial; in establishing democratic freedom; in holding a sincere and frank dialogue that truly seeks a solution to the conflict, effectively modifying the causes that have produced it; and in facing and weakening the selfish interests of the oligarchy, even though the FDR-FMLN has given clear signs of its firm desire for peace and has presented an alternative for a political solution that represents the aspirations of all of our people.

5. The year 1984 was a year of advances for the FPL, especially in establishing political and ideologic cohesion. For the FDR-FMLN, the year 1984 represented a year of political and military consolidation.

In conclusion, the plans of the Reagan administration, President Duarte, the fascist high command, and the oligarchy are being defeated and will be defeated because they do not respond to the interests of the people or have their support. Meanwhile, those of us in the FDR-FMLN are more united, have a powerful guerrilla army, the sympathy and the support of our people, and the solidarity of the peoples of the world.

Considering all these facts, the FPL Central Committee decided at its plenary meeting to intensify the people's war and to lead the revolution to victory. This is the primary watchword that will guide our steps during this period. To achieve this, we, together with the FDR-FMLN, will implement an all-people's war and will turn whatever we touch into a weapon against the enemy.

The guidelines for our work are:

1. To consolidate the unity of the FMLN and the alliance with the FDR and to close ranks with all the democratic and progressive forces among the people and the Army.
2. To decidedly support the workers' struggles and demands and to defend their achievements.
3. To continue our efforts to achieve a just, patriotic peace through understanding and dialogue.
4. To strengthen the FMLN's revolutionary armed forces.
5. To close ranks against the interventionist effort of Yankee imperialism and to prepare in every way to defeat a direct Yankee aggression if it occurs.
6. To work with the forces of progress and peace to stop U.S. meddling in Central America and obtain a political solution for the regional conflict.

Aware of the great advances and achievements of the democratic revolutionary movement this past year, the FPL Central Committee pays profound homage to those who gave their lives to pave the way to victory.

Finally, this Central Committee sends to the Salvadoran people, sister FMLN organizations -- the People's Revolutionary Army, the Communist Party of El Salvador, the National Resistance, the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers -- the FDR, militant forces, commanders, fighters, and brotherly people and friendly governments of the world, a fraternal greeting and a most profound and sincere acknowledgement of their efforts to make the advance of the Salvadoran people toward justice, liberty, independence, and peace possible.

We call on the working class, peasants, and other popular Salvadoran sectors to continue the political and military struggle to defeat the plans of imperialism and the oligarchy. We urge them to join the FMLN and the FDR.

We urge the progressive and democratic forces of our country to close ranks to stop the plans of aggression produced by the current warmongering policy of Ronald Reagan against El Salvador and to win peace. We urge our militants, commanders, and fighters, to intensify and broaden our people's war by promoting, as a single unit, all the guidelines set forth by this Central Committee.

We urge all the people and the progressive and democratic forces of the world to intensify their solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Salvadoran people and to reject the interventionist policy of Yankee imperialism against Central America.

Let us intensify the people's struggle and lead the revolution to victory.

Revolution or death, the armed people will win!

Proletarians of all the countries unite!

United to fight until final victory!

Revolution or death, we will win!

[Signed] Leonel Gonzalez, first secretary of the FPL Central Committee and commander in chief of the FPL

Chalatenango, March 1985

GUATEMALA

ARMY AFFIRMS GUARANTEES FOR CITIZENS, AMNESTY

PA052002 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] The charges made against Guatemala by two people in Washington are false. A communique issued by the Army Public Relations Office indicated that the statement made in Washington by a Guatemalan who was arrested along with his wife and daughter during a raid against illegal aliens is completely groundless. The Guatemalan had said that if they were deported they inevitably would be killed because there are no guarantees in Guatemala.

The communique added that as part of a well-orchestrated campaign to discredit Guatemala, (Joel) and Gabriela, using fictitious names and wearing masks, said that no laws exist in Guatemala to guarantee the physical integrity of the nation's inhabitants. The communique indicated that this is not true since men and women have obtained protection under the amnesty established by the government, even though they had participated in subversive actions, and they now live normal lives with their families.

The Army Public Relations Office communique added that political leaders have been able to return to Guatemala and have become involved in the normal activities of their professions. Therefore, what (Joel) and Gabriela seek is not to be deported from Washington.

GUERRILLA CLAIMS SUPPORT FROM CUBA, NICARAGUA

PA031913 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2015 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Guatemala City, 2 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Guatemalan guerrillas receive support from Cuba and Nicaragua, which supply this aid via the Mexican border. This information was disclosed by a rebel captured by the Army in El Peten Department, in the northern part of the country. The rebel was taken prisoner by the government forces on 19 February after an armed clash that forced the insurgents to disperse.

The rebel was presented to local newsmen yesterday at El Subin military base, located 70 km north of Santa Elena Department.

"During the 19 February fighting, after we dispersed, I was left alone and had no choice but to surrender to the Army, because my Companero "Chaia" had been wounded and I decided to leave him there, where he later died," the leftist explained.

This man, about 30 year old, was presented to the newsmen with his face covered to prevent reprisals from his former companeros, military sources explained to Guatemalan newsmen, who reported that on 19 and 20 February six guerrillas were killed in armed clashes.

"We are conducting a new offensive," the military sources added, "and with it we are forcing the enemy to disclose what it plans to do, where it is directed, and what its potential is."

The rebel explained that he was recruited into the armed group, noting that several labor leaders, including himself, were convinced that the only solution for the country was the armed struggle.

"I was like many others of the Escuintla papermill workers union," he added. "Our photographs were published in the newspapers as missing or kidnapped, but they sent us to Cuba to be trained to handle all kinds of arms."

After spending 3 months in Cuba, where he was trained by a Cuban and a Soviet, the guerrilla returned to Nicaragua, and from there he went to the city of Cuernavaca in Mexico, "where I underwent the final training phase" before crossing the northern border of Guatemala.

The insurgents are supplied from the Mexican border with arms and food, but he noted that "one goes hungry in the mountains and suffers many illnesses," in addition to the fact that many combatants die from the wounds sustained in combat because of the scarcity of medicines.

The Army presented the arms seized in two clashes, which include U.S.-made M-16 rifles and Claymore-type mines. Also seized were medicines and surgical equipment stolen a few days ago from Dr Elam Stollzfus, a U.S. citizen who has an evangelical mission in that region.

The militarymen present at the press conference indicated that the self-styled "Lucio Martinez," "Raul Orante," and "Feliciano Argueta" subversive fronts have well organized guerrilla groups and "their operations are staged at a prudent distance from the Mexican border, to where they escape when the Army surrounds them."

HONDURAS

SUAZO CORDOVA MEETS WITH U.S. MILITARY OFFICERS

PA051959 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] High-ranking U.S. officers met yesterday with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova and high-ranking Honduran officers in what seems to be a continuation of the talks to reach military agreements between the two countries. The meeting, held behind closed doors, was attended by General John Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff; General John Galvin, the new commander of the U.S. Southern Command headquartered in Panama; and the Honduran National Security Council.

A UPI dispatch reported that the meeting was held in La Paz, a small town located 44 km east of Tegucigalpa. The talks with the National Security Council, which includes General Walter Lopez Reyes, command in chief of the Armed Forces, and the commanders of the branches of the Armed Forces, began at 1500 and ended at (21615).

Here is a report from central Honduras by our correspondent Juan Bosco Santos:

[Begin recording] President Roberto Suazo Cordova was officially invited at this meeting to visit the White House in May.

President Suazo Cordova also held a meeting with the National Security Council from 1400 to 1500 before the beginning of the high-level meeting with the U.S. delegation. Gen Walter Lopez and the high-ranking officers of the Armed Forces branches attended the meeting.

The invitation from President Reagan was one of the main subjects discussed during yesterday afternoon's meeting in La Paz with the delegation led by Gen John Vessey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Gen Vessey was accompanied by Gen John Galvin, commander of the U.S. Southern Command who took command on Saturday afternoon at 1400 in the Panama Canal area. After that ceremony, Galvin and Vessey immediately traveled to El Salvador and from there went to Palmerola, Honduras. They then went to President Suazo Cordova's office in La Paz. This was the first activity of the new commander of the Southern Command.

U.S. Ambassador John Dimitri Negroponte, Raymond Burghardt of the National Security Council, [name indistinct], and James Michel of the State Department attended the meeting. During the approximately 75-minute meeting, they discussed, among other topics, the security for the visit to Honduras by Vice President George Bush, and the views of both countries concerning strengthening the close relations between the two peoples with regard to the new military treaty.

President Suazo Cordova personally saw the delegation off at the La Paz heliport. The delegation left for the Palmerola airport, from where it traveled to Washington at 1700.

Regarding President Reagan's invitation to President Suazo Cordova, we can officially report that the invitation is for Tuesday, 21 May. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

URBINA LARA RELEASED; FLOWN TO COLOMBIA

PA060233 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government, once again demonstrating its political will to make the Contadora Group's negotiations for peace in Central America viable, and just as President Commander Daniel Ortega had decided, turned over Jose Manuel Urbina Lara to the Colombian Government today.

As everyone knows, Urbina Lara took refuge in the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua to avoid compliance with the Patriotic Military Service [SMP] law. However, on 24 December when he tried to escape from that embassy, he was arrested by the policeman on guard duty. He was shot in the leg as he struggled with the agent.

Today the arrested man was taken to Bogota by Colombian Ambassador to Managua Aberlardo Duarte, who has just presented his credentials to our government.

The two were received at Bogota's military airport by Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo.

Upon arriving in Bogota, Urbina Lara admitted during a brief statement to a Colombian journalist that he was part of an internal front that carried out counterrevolutionary activities in Managua. Apparently, when he lost contact with his chieftains he decided to seek asylum. This statement was not broadcast in his own voice.

The report adds: Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo, pressured by many journalists and radio networks from several countries, expressed his appreciation and that of the other Contadora Group foreign ministers for the Nicaraguan Government's decision to advance the date that the prisoner, an SMP deserter, was to be released. The release had been scheduled for tomorrow. The Colombian foreign minister's remarks follow:

[Begin recording] Before coming to the airport, I had the pleasure of speaking with my Costa Rican colleague, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez, to tell him that Jose Manuel Urbina Lara's trip had been advanced as a result of an agreement between President Daniel Ortega and President Belisario Betancur. This information was given to the Contadora Group foreign ministers this morning. I told Carlos Jose Gutierrez that Mr Urbina Lara would be arriving in Colombia very soon. On behalf of the Costa Rican Government, the foreign minister stated his pleasure and appreciation to the Contadora Group for its work. He also said that the obstacle to continuing the work of searching for peace in Central America had been removed.

We think so. We think that after the international community has almost unanimously acknowledged that the Contadora Group's effort and road is undoubtedly the best road for peace in Central America, it will be possible to find it, thanks to the political will shown by the five Central American countries, which in effect have the means for peace in their hands. We are only catalysts and instruments for a fruitful dialogue that we hope will be successful very soon.

On behalf of the Contadora Group countries, I would also like to express our appreciation for the offer made by the United Nations Office of High Commissioner for Refugees to cooperate fully for the well-being of Mr Urbina Lara.

Colombia is honored by the fact that this is the first country to which Mr Urbina Lara comes, and I believe that the Contadora Group foreign ministers join me in stating our satisfaction to the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican Governments for the happy ending to this incident, which we hope will leave no traces and no winners or losers. [end recording]

Urbina Lara became nervous when faced with a large crowd of Colombian and foreign journalists and refused to make statements. He was dressed in a blue shirt and blue jeans, according to a report by an Emisoras CARACOL Network announcer who was broadcasting the event for another international network:

[Begin recording] The media and international news agencies want to talk with him. This is why [words indistinct] connected with CARACOL Network. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Ramirez Ocampo told journalists that Urbina Lara will be in his country 3 days before he decides where he will go.

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] [end recording]

This has been a report from Bogota on the arrival there this afternoon of SMP deserter Jose Manuel Urbina Lara.

TINOCO DISCUSSES IMPORTANCE OF MANZANILLO TALKS

PA050228 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] It is up to the United States to return to Manzanillo, Mexico, with a defined policy, Victor Hugo Tinoco, Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister, said at the United Nations. Tinoco said that the United States must return to Manzanillo to continue talks with Nicaragua as a contribution to the Contadora Group's efforts for a peaceful solution to the Central American crisis and also to normalize relations between the U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments.

Tinoco met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to inform him of the Nicaraguan Government's willingness to cooperate in the Contadora process and to normalize its relations with the United States. Tinoco added that the Nicaraguan Government does not expect a reply from the U.S. Government regarding the unilateral measures taken by Nicaragua. However, he said that there can be no progress if the U.S. Government does not decide what concessions it would be willing to make on matters of security in the context of a regional agreement to normalize its relations with Nicaragua.

WHELOCK STRESSES MILITARY, ECONOMIC DEFENSE

PA052011 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 4 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock said yesterday that the country must defend itself, both militarily and economically. He addressed the members of the 23 July Heroic Youth Contingent who were demobilized after completing 4 months of work in coffee fields of the fourth region.

Wheelock, a member of the FSLN National Directorate, described the presence of this student contingent as "an important victory." He noted that they defended a piece of land and permitted thousands of civilians to harvest the coffee, thus obstructing the plans of the CIA mercenaries.

Your presence, Wheelock said, strengthened the defense and resulted in a political and military victory.

He said that in the next few months, much of hard work will be required in the military sphere and added that on the foreign level, the U.S. policy of abuse of international law and basic norms of peaceful coexistence among nations prevails. He noted that this has reached such an extent that the United States has publicly advocated the military overthrow of the revolutionary government. "We cannot accept interests that are not genuinely Nicaraguan," he remarked vigorously.

Further on, he noted that in view of the prolonged struggle against imperialism, there is a need to put the country's defense in order and stressed that the military service is an effort in this direction.

After indicating that the youth are a basic bastion, Wheelock remarked that a defense cannot be organized with everyone who wants to go to the war fronts, because human resources such as technicians, doctors, women, and other sectors of the population needed for productive tasks must be used rationally.

In this regard, he said that the defense of the country's economic sovereignty must not be neglected, adding that the revolution is advancing strategically because it takes care of both aspects of defense.

Wheelock also praised the victory of the 23 July Heroic Youth Contingent, which is made up of more than 1,000 students of the 19 July Sandinist Youth, the Federation of High School Students, and the National Union of Nicaraguan Students, adding that this has been a victorious chapter of the revolution because an important economic task, the coffee harvest, was accomplished.

The Sandinist leader praised the examples of Alvaro Fonseca, who was killed fighting CIA mercenaries. He said that it was a painful casualty and added that this is an example of what it means to be called a Nicaraguan during this difficult period of struggle against a superpower nation, the United States.

WHEELOCK ON HIGH SUGAR PRICE, HARVEST PROGRESS

PA041835 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] The increase in the price of sugar is aimed to ensure the survival of the sugar industry, which over the past several years has suffered the consequences of rising production costs and very low prices on the international market, Commander Jaime Wheelock Roman, minister of agricultural development and agrarian reform has said.

[Begin recording] The sugarcane harvest is going well and we are close to reaching our target yield. However, all plantations have been infested by (?field mice); they have infested several sugar mills, including San Antonio. This will lower the yield by 600,000 quintals or approximately 10 percent, a very high amount. Also, as a result of rising salaries and higher prices for raw materials and spare parts, our production costs have gone up while the price on the international sugar market is at rock bottom. This means that the Nicaraguan people must subsidize sugar production by paying higher prices for the product to ensure the survival of the industry. We could have had the government subsidize the difference, but the government does not have the means. Therefore, the people, who have enjoyed low sugar prices for many years, must be asked to shoulder the cost to prevent the sugar industry from going bankrupt. That is why the price of sugar is somewhat high at this time. [end recording]

With regard to coffee and cotton, Wheelock said that 80 percent of the target yield of 1 million quintals of coffee has already been collected and that thus far 3.5 million quintals of cotton have been harvested.

[Begin recording] [Wheelock] We have collected 80 percent of the coffee harvest, which was estimated at 1 million quintals. During upcoming weeks we should reach the 90-percent mark.

[Reporter] How is the cotton harvest going?

[Wheelock] The cotton harvest is slowing down. We are at the winding down stage. There are fewer parcels to be machine-harvested, and hand harvesting is also winding down.

We have harvested 3.5 million quintals of the 5.3 million we plan to pick. This means that we have completed 70 percent of the harvest. We had some problem with regard to weight loss in the fiber; this will lower our yield some, but the harvest will be satisfactory. The people have made great efforts to harvest coffee, sugarcane, and cotton, and this will enable us to have successful harvests. [end recording]

PSC PRESIDENT VIEWS ORTEGA PEACE PROPOSALS

PA051947 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] Among the varied views of politicians and observers concerning the social phenomena occurring in the country, there are some who show disbelief, skepticism, and lack of confidence in everything that President Ortega has said and in the proposals he will take to the summit of leaders who will gather in Uruguay for the inauguration of President Sanguinetti.

LA PRENSA reporters interviewed Agustin Jarquin, president of the Social Christian Party [PSC], regarding the peace initiatives proposed by Commander Ortega. The politician quickly assessed these proposals and answered our questions in the following manner:

[Question] What is your opinion, as a politician, of the new peace proposals that President Ortega will take to the Uruguay summit?

[Jarquin] The announcements made by President Ortega show a mistake in substance, that is the belief that the well-being of Nicaraguans lies with good relations between the Nicaraguan and U.S. Governments. The modern history of Nicaragua has shown that this is not so, Jarquin noted, adding that the well-being and peace of Nicaraguans can only be the result of reconciliation and unity among Nicaraguans, and this is the goal of a broad national dialogue.

[Question] What is your opinion on the military aspect of these proposals by Commander Ortega?

[Jarquin] Specifically, Commander Ortega's proposals on military matters are inconsistent because verification mechanisms that satisfy governments of the area do not exist, and therefore, to them they could just be proposals for propaganda reasons.

[Question] What about the invitation that the Nicaraguan Government made to the U.S. Government for a group of congressmen to come and verify if the weapons in Nicaragua are offensive? What is your opinion?

[Jarquin] To invite the U.S. Government to verify that there is no offensive army here is an insult to neighboring countries because they have expressed the most concern about our military growth. This definitely violates the Contadora Group agreements and affects the Contadora process negatively because it would be a bilateral agreement with the United States which disregards the regional nature of the Contadora Document.

[Question] Then what is the reality?

[Jarquin] So far the facts have contradicted what President Ortega said with regard to nonalignment, the mixed economy, and political pluralism. In Nicaragua, for example, there was the creation of the so-called "Nicaraguan Association of Friendship With Socialist Countries," which uses FSLN-controlled media to address the people and promote those values, concepts, and ideologies of socialist bloc countries which are pro-Soviet. As far as I know, there is no similar group that promotes friendship with Western and democratic countries.

[Question] What can you tell me about political pluralism and the mixed economy?

[Jarquin] The International Human Rights Commission, the Nicaraguan Permanent Commission for Human Rights, and other trustworthy international organizations have confirmed and maintain that these are goals have yet to be achieved in Nicaragua.

[Question] In conclusion, what is your opinion about the dialogue the Nicaraguan Government is seeking with the United States?

[Jarquin] The government of Commander Ortega should not be begging the United States for a dialogue because it goes against the nationalist thought of General Sandino. What Nicaragua needs and the FSLN should implement immediately is a broad national dialogue that leads to the reconciliation of Nicaraguans. This will effectively contribute to dealing with everything that affects national and regional peace.

PSC OFFICIAL URGES RENEWAL OF NATIONAL DIALOGUE

PA051802 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Mar 85 p 5

[Excerpts] Julio Ramon Garcia Vilchez, coordinator of the PSC's Legislative Commission, has stated that the FSLN must resume the national dialogue which it suspended in November and which most political parties want strengthened. The LA PRENSA interview with Garcia Vilchez went as follows:

LA PRENSA: In view of the situation, what measures should be strengthened to overcome the crisis?

Garcia: In the FSLN message of 8 February, it is stated that the FSLN government has sought "a sincere dialogue with the U.S. Government since the current administration took office."

In another paragraph of the same message, it mentions the efforts "to get the United States to return to the negotiations at Manzanillo." We believe that the FSLN, before anything else, must make efforts to return to the national dialogue it suspended in November 1984 and which most Nicaraguan political parties have tried to strengthen.

LA PRENSA: At the meeting held at Government House on Saturday, 16 February, Commander Daniel Ortega said that a rightist or leftist government could not last 15 days in power with the FSLN in the opposition. What is your opinion?

Garcia: First allow me to repeat something I have mentioned previously: The right wings and left wings made their triumphal entry into the cemetery of political systems a long time ago. There are new doctrines and political systems which replace them.

PCDEN HEAD ON REVOLUTION'S 'CAPITALIST DENOUEMENT'

PA051738 Paris AFP in Spanish 1713 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Managua, 4 Mar (AFP) -- The Communist Party of Nicaragua, PCdeN (pro-Soviet), asserted today that the Sandinist government "is falling, defeated by U.S. imperialism's aggression and pressure." Analyzing the series of economic measures decreed 2 weeks ago by President Daniel Ortega, PCdeN Secretary General Eli Altamirano said that the Nicaraguan people "are witnessing the revolution's capitalist denouement."

The Sandinist government's measures include devaluation of the currency, cancellation of subsidies for staples and basic services -- which will lead to a general increase in prices -- and greater incentives for agricultural and industrial production.

According to the PCdeN's analysis, these are "100 percent capitalist" measures and reflect that the "economic, political, and social crisis in the country has become unsurmountable for the Sandinist regime." "President Reagan's increased aggressiveness, world capitalism, and the armed counterrevolution" are basically responsible for the Sandinist government's "fall, defeated by the aggression and pressure of imperialism," Altamirano asserted.

Altamirano said that Nicaraguans "are witnessing the capitalist denouement of the revolutionary process" and insisted that "judging from the facts, no one will be able to stop this change."

The Communists do not discard the possibility that fully coinciding with the private sector and opposition parties, Ortega's government is seeking an understanding with international banks, which have boycotted credits for the Sandinists in recent years.

The PCdeN indicated that, "instead of turning back," the Sandinist government must strengthen the process. As a result, the people "will make their most powerful adversary bite the dust of defeat. Then they will be able to advance toward the fullest and most sovereign use of their self-determination, and choose the social regime they prefer."

Meanwhile, the enforcement of a new wage scale was announced for this week, in an attempt to counter the increase in the prices of staples.

Lucio Jimenez, secretary of the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers, CST, said that -- in addition to the new wages, people's stores will be established so workers may purchase their products at official prices.

PASTORA ISSUES DOCUMENT URGING TRUE UNION

PA051718 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Nicaraguan guerrilla leader Commander Eden Pastora and a group of followers issued a document yesterday in San Jose in which they called on the Nicaraguan Democratic Force to form a true union based on serious agreements and guarantees regarding compliance. This union must be democratic and historical, said the document, which called for the overthrow of the totalitarian regime in Managua. It called on all civic and armed opposition organizations in Nicaragua and in exile to support this initiative to unite and continue the struggle. The document stressed that any initiative to resolve the conflict in other ways will be respected because the goal is to defeat totalitarianism and contain what Soviet leader (Viktor Volskiy) called the inevitable advance of communism in Latin America. The signatories of the document, including Alfredo Cesar, Jose Davila, Donald Castillo, and Adolfo Chamorro, have agreed to form a political, ideological, and military opposition bloc to facilitate the necessary unity and demonstrate with facts their desire for unity to overthrow and expel from Nicaragua the Marxist-Leninist invaders who betrayed the revolution and its principles for sustained social peace.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON NICARAGUA

FL060228 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Mar 85

[Text] GRANMA newspaper, official organ of the party's Central Committee, today published the following Cuban Government communique.

On 27 February, the Nicaraguan Government through its President Commander Daniel Ortega, in a responsible and well-reasoned foreign policy statement, announced a number of measures which it will unconditionally adopt as proof of its good faith and in order to boost the negotiating process in the search for political solutions to the conflicts in Central America.

These measures include giving up the cooperation of 100 Cuban military collaborators who are at present providing their internationalist services to the Nicaraguan people, victims of the aggressions of the mercenary forces at the service of Yankee imperialism and the target of constant threats of a direct military intervention by the United States. The 100 Cuban military collaborators, according to the Nicaraguan statement, will begin to leave the country in May.

Cuba fully supports the 27 February statement, the announced measures, and the generous and courageous gesture of the Nicaraguan Government in adopting this initiative which in no way entails, as U.S. Government spokesmen have tried to suggest, a sign of weakness or the alleged result of the aggressive policy of imperialism toward Nicaragua. On the contrary, this is an act of maturity, calmness, self-confidence, and represents a firm commitment to fight for peace. After noting this, it would be foolish to ignore the determination of the Nicaraguan people and the Sandinist directorate to never capitulate in the face of aggressors and to defend their fatherland and the revolution, whatever the cost.

We have always said that Cuba will never adopt unilateral measures in regard to its cooperation with Nicaragua, but will give its full support to the measures adopted by the Nicaraguan Government in the search for peace and will comply strictly with all Cuban obligations deriving from decisions made by Nicaragua's directorate.

Rigorously abiding by this policy, and taking into account the spirit, purposes, and the seriousness of the Nicaraguan declaration, the Cuban Government states that:

1. During the rest of March and during the month of April, we will not send any additional military or security collaborators to Nicaragua, beyond the number that is presently there.
2. During May, 100 military and security collaborators will be withdrawn.
3. We will inform the Contadora Group beforehand of all necessary details related to the withdrawal of this personnel.
4. Considering the unconditional nature of Nicaragua's obligation, the Cuban Government will withdraw these collaborators regardless of whether or not the U.S. Congress approves the aid to mercenary groups who are fighting against the Nicaraguan Government.
5. If after these efforts by Nicaragua in the search for peace, and after the withdrawal of the 100 military and security collaborators previously mentioned, the U.S. Government continues its policy of dirty war and of threats of aggression against the Government of Nicaragua, Cuba will consider that it has absolute liberty to make a decision which it decides is best if Nicaragua asks for the sending of new military and security advisers and instructors, in addition to those who will remain.

6. Thousands of U.S. soldiers, the numerous military bases, and the enormous quantity of war materiel from that country's government are located in Honduras, constituting an indisputable threat to Nicaragua.
7. The United States, through the CIA and other mechanisms, is conducting a dirty war against the legal and popular Government of Nicaragua. Organizing, training, arming, and directing the mercenary groups who have brought about thousands of deaths, among them numerous civilians, including women and children, and enormous economic losses to the people of that Central American nation.
8. The U.S. Government advises the Salvadoran Army in its genocidal war against the heroic people of this brother country and supplies it with a continuous torrent of war equipment, which includes airplanes and helicopters of great firepower, the use of which is dramatically felt by the civilian population.
9. U.S. actions in Central America threaten peace, openly violate the most basic moral norms and international laws, and the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries, reaching the extreme, in the case of Nicaragua, of openly proclaiming its objective of overthrowing the government.
10. Cuba supports a real and just solution of the conflicts in Central America that implies, among other measures, the withdrawal of all foreign military collaborators, the absolute halt to all supply of weapons to Central America, and strict application of the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of those countries.
11. U.S. claims to maintain military bases and a full apparatus of intervention in the internal affairs of Central American nations, of blackmail, and of threats of aggression against any of them is unacceptable to the international community and to the conscience honor, and sovereign rights of all Latin American peoples.
12. Under such premises and as long as the idea persists of eliminating the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua and destroying the last Salvadoran revolutionary, both of which are impossible, it is inconceivable that there will be a solution to Central America's problems.
13. Cuba will continue to firmly support the efforts of the Contadora Group to achieve a just agreement which satisfies all the nations in Central America. That possibility really exists and the fact that it has not already been achieved is due solely to the obstacles and open opposition of the U.S. Government.
14. Such an agreement, fully related to our collaboration with Nicaragua, once accepted by the government of this brother country will be rigorously complied with by the Cuban Government.

Havana, 4 March 1985

'OUR AMERICA' ON REAGAN STATEMENTS ON NICARAGUA

PA030030 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 1 Mar 85

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Faced with countless judgments in international law and the judgment and sentiment of all peoples, U.S. President Ronald Reagan continues to insist that the popular and revolutionary Government of Nicaragua must be removed by violent means. An article by Juan Marrero, specialist in international affairs at the Cuban daily GRANMA, addresses the U.S. President's statement that what the United States is doing and proposes be done is remove the Nicaraguan Government, and that this is within the UN Charter.

Either the President of the United States has never held the UN Charter in his hands or his closest aides and advisers have completely misinformed him so that he is attempting to justify such a monstrous act by draping it with an international legal document. Nowhere in the UN Charter -- a document that has been in effect for almost 40 years, columnist Marrero indicates -- is any state empowered to remove the government of another state by force, as Reagan has recently stated. The UN Charter states the opposite. It stipulates that all member states must fulfill certain general obligations, such as the obligation to resolve international disputes through peaceful means and the obligation to abstain from making threats or using force against other states. Also the UN Charter has among its precepts the preservation of international peace and security, the promotion of friendly relations between nations, and another very important one: the obligation to respect the equal rights and self-determination of peoples.

The GRANMA columnist continues with a question: Don't Reagan's statements against Nicaragua contravene the principles and aims contained in the introduction and body of the UN Charter and reiterated in the major documents of that world organization, created during the last 2 weeks of World War II? To state that the UN Charter advocates giving aid to the CIA-trained and funded mercenaries so that they can overthrow the legitimate Nicaraguan Government which is the result of a genuine popular revolution and confirmed by recent elections, is a monstrous lie. It is also in shocking contradiction with the spirit with which the United States signed the UN Charter in 1945. Juan Marrero's article goes on to quote a statement by then President Roosevelt: The task about us is peace. More than the conclusion of war it is the end of the beginning of all confrontations. I ask you to maintain faith.

The decision to publicly and unabashedly declare, as the Reagan administration has done, that the Nicaraguan Government must be overthrown increases the danger of U.S. intervention in the area. As Fidel Castro said in his recent interview with the Spanish news agency EFE: The United States is next to the powder keg playing with fire. Positions such as these, the GRANMA analyst emphasizes, are not the solution to the Central American problem. Neither the Sandinist revolution nor any other true revolution can be defeated by force. The United States failed in Vietnam and in Cuba, and it will fail in Nicaragua. All it will do is get bogged down in an unending struggle with the corresponding high cost in American lives, like in Vietnam. Also, a foray in Nicaragua is inconsistent with the ideal of peace for all, including the American people, that Roosevelt dreamt of.

CASTRO MEETS WITH ARGENTINE PARTY LEADER

PA052018 Paris AFP in Spanish 1616 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Havana, 5 Mar (AFP) -- According to an official announcement, President Fidel Castro met with Oscar Alende, president of the Argentine Intransigent Party, who visited Cuba at the invitation of the Communist Party of Cuba. Alende's presence in Havana had not been made public until now. Although the information in the newspaper GRANMA did not include any dates, it seems to indicate that the Argentine politician has already ended his visit to Cuba.

The Intransigent Party came in third in the elections won by Raul Alfonsin. The GRANMA report referred to Castro as "the first secretary of our party's Central Committee" when it mentioned the meeting.

Alende and his Cuban interlocutors "discussed topics of interest concerning the political and socioeconomic problems of Latin American and the Third World," the newspaper stated. They also "discussed topics concerning the world's economic situation, especially the Latin American foreign debt and its consequences for our peoples," it added.

FLAVIO BRAVO, NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA LEAVE URUGUAY

FL050242 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Flavio Bravo, president of Cuba's National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP], and the delegation that accompanied him to the presidential inauguration of Julio Maria Sanguinetti left today to return to Havana. The Cuban delegation was seen off at the airport by Sanguinetti and Uruguay's Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias.

Flavio Bravo underscored during an interview with PRELA the cordial and friendly treatment extended him by Uruguayan officials and described his meetings with legislators from that nation as very constructive and friendly.

Also departing on the same flight, returning to Nicaragua, was President Daniel Ortega Saavedra.

Montane Greets Returning Bravo

FL051548 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] The Cuban delegation headed by Flavio Bravo, member of the party Central Committee and president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, which attended the inauguration of Julio Maria Sanguinetti as president of Uruguay, returned to our country and was received by Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo.

COOPERATION MEETING WITH SFRY OPENS IN HAVANA

LD051632 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1549 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Havana, March 5 (TANJUG) -- Economic, scientific and technical cooperation between Cuba and Yugoslavia recorded a major progress last year, it was noted during the opening here today of the fifth session of the two countries' joint commission for cooperation in these fields. The Yugoslav delegation to the session is headed by government member Mito Pejovski, and the Cuban by Minister of Foreign Trade Ricardo Cabrisas.

Yugoslav-Cuban trade last year totalled 24.8 million dollars, with Yugoslav exports accounting for 17.6 million dollars. Yugoslavia has approved credits to Cuba for the purchase of ambulances and industrial equipment.

Besides this, the first agreement on industrial cooperation and technology transfers and the accord reached on cooperation between the planning bodies of the two countries were assessed as steps of great importance for further cooperation.

In Havana, Pejovski will meet a number of government and party leaders, including Vice President of the Councils of Ministers and State Carlos Rafael Rodriguez.

ROBERTO VEIGA RECEIVES SPANISH LABOR LEADERS

FL041740 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the party Politburo and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], has received Nicolas Redondo, secretary general of the General Union of Spanish Workers, and Manuel Simon, the organization's secretary of international relations, at Jose Marti International Airport.

The Spanish labor leaders are in our country at the invitation of the CTC. During their stay, they will visit work centers and hold talks with leaders of the Cuban labor movement.

Leaders To Discuss Labor Movement

FL042106 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1907 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Excerpt] The high-level delegation from the General Union of Spanish Workers will meet today with the union board of the Antillana de Acero's Jose Marti steel and iron workers during which the delegation will discuss the labor movement in that sector.

Between 3 and 9 March, the Spanish union members will visit production and service centers and places of historic and cultural interest in Cuba such as the Almeijeras Hospital, the Valle de Picadura, and the old Moncada barracks in Santiago de Cuba.

Talks Begin

FL051500 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Delegation of the CTC and the General Union of Spanish Workers have begun official talks at CTC headquarters. The two delegations are presided over by Roberto Veiga and Nicolas Redondo, secretaries general of their respective proletarian organizations.

CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ RECEIVES UN OFFICIAL

FL011626 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received a high-ranking UN official, (Margaret Joan Austin), general under secretary of the Technical Cooperation Department for Development. The UN official attended the inauguration in Moa of the pilot plant of the North Oriente Province laterite research plant.

The Cuban vice president conversed with the visitor on the importance of this installation to Cuba. The plant is being built with the cooperation of the UN organization, the UN Program for Development. Carlos Rafael said this plant will help optimize the exploitation and recovery of nickel and the extraction of cobalt.

ANPP MEMBERS TO MAKE 5-DAY VISIT TO JAPAN 13 MAR

FL021520 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1503 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Members of Cuba's National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] will visit Tokyo on 13 March at the invitation of Japanese Diet members. The group of Cuban deputies is to be headed by ANPP President Flavio Bravo and the delegation's visit to Japan will last for 5 days.

The planned program of activities includes a meeting with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, and other Japanese Government officials.

On Thursday, 14 March, the Cubans will visit the leaders of the two houses of the Diet, and will meet with representatives of the Federation of Economic Organizations of Japan and the Friendship Association of Japanese-Cuban Parliamentarians.

CIEGO DE AVILA ANAP ANNOUNCES NEW GOALS

FL282020 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1921 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] One of this year's tasks of Ciego de Avila's National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP] members is to complete the quota of sales to the state of 1,069,600 hundredweight of agricultural products. They will also work for greater participation by farm families in sports and cultural activities, as well as the completion of the goal of bringing 600 33.3-acre tracts of land into cooperatives. The Ciego de Avila ANAP plan will also include special attention to measures for greater economic efficiency on peasant farms. Ciego de Avila ANAP members will work to strengthen the eight agricultural production cooperatives, which have joined the effort to produce 100,000 hundredweight of grain, tubers, and vegetables.

REPORT ON LABOR CODE VIOLATIONS IN HOLGUIN

FL282036 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1510 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] In Holguin Province, the territorial inspection delegation for northern Oriente has reported in its 1984 study that out of approximately every five workers, there had been one labor code violation.

During 1984, there were 11,706 violations in 107 inspections, 46 percent of them for social security violations. In the area of work organization and salaries, there were 4,417 deficiencies, especially in standardization of and incorrect payments to those not paid under the piecework system.

It was also reported that just in salaries, the inspectors in Holguin Province detected 831 violations, 765 of which were in direct contracts and others in contracts for eventual projects and annual vacations.

START OF 1985 FAR INSTRUCTION PERIOD CELEBRATED

FL021420 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] The new instruction year for the FAR has started in Cuba with military ceremonies held at several Army and unit posts.

At the Eastern Army, this event was attended by Division General Abelardo Colome Ibarra, first vice FAR minister, and Miguel Cano Blanco, first party secretary of Holguin Province, both of them alternate Politburo members.

The military ceremony of the Central Army was held at one of the artillery units. Here, the chief of this Army, Brigadier General Gustavo Fleitas, Central Committee member, presented this command's list of obligations in tribute to the party's third congress. The document was received by Division General Sixto Batista, alternate Politburo member and chief of the Central Committee's Military Department.

Also as part of the start of the new instruction period, the combatants of the Western Army presented their list of obligations in tribute to the party's third congress to Division General Senen Casas, alternate Politburo member and FAR vice minister.

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDAJACOBS ON FOREIGN POLICY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FLO11440 Bridgetown CANA in English 2252 GMT 28 Feb 85

[Text] St Johns, Antigua, Feb 28, CANA -- Antigua and Barbuda will continue to link its foreign policy directly to the economic development needs of the country, Governor General Sir Wilfred Jacobs said here today in his traditional throne speech at the opening of a new parliamentary session. Sir Wilfred said the twin island state will pursue policies at both the multilateral and bilateral levels which will improve the social and economic welfare of its people.

We have benefitted from assistance with the People's Republic of China and this year we will deepen relations still further by concluding a trade agreement with Beijing. A delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird will visit Beijing this year at the invitation of the Chinese Government to negotiate the terms of such a trade agreement, Sir Wilfred said. He also said that Antigua and Barbuda will increase the number of European countries with which it has diplomatic relations as well as improve relations with traditional friends -- Britain, the United States, Canada, and its neighbours in the Caribbean.

Sir Wilfred pledged Antigua and Barbuda's firm commitment to regional institutions. These include the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community and the Caribbean Development Bank, which he said not only safeguard the region's political independence, but are vital foundation stones in the economic welfare of the region as a whole. He also urged Caribbean governments and private sectors to pursue a policy of perseverance, noting that there is some disillusionment over the value of regional institutions. Caribbean people have the capacity and creativity to overcome all obstacles, Sir Wilfred declared. The Antigua and Barbuda Government, he said, is hopeful that regional trade will return to acceptable levels, thus enhancing the economic well-being of Caribbean peoples and their countries.

BARBADOSPRIME MINISTER SEEKS MORE JAPANESE INVESTMENT

FLO41214 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Barbadian Prime Minister Tom Adams suggested yesterday that Japan invest more in Barbados and the Caribbean to correct the current trade imbalance between the region and the Asian industrial giant. Mr Adams was interviewed upon his return to Barbados from an official visit to Japan where he signed a loan agreement of \$19 million for capital projects. Mr Adams said he met with Japanese cotton growers and suggested they consider growing cotton on Barbados in the manner in which Japanese firms plant and grow coffee in Jamaica.

DOMINICACHARLES DENIES REPORT ON OPPOSITION WINNING

FLO12212 Bridgetown CANA in English 2043 GMT 1 Mar 85

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, March 1, CANA -- Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles has dismissed a regional press report of a possible opposition victory in this year's general election, saying her Dominica Freedom Party (DFP) will win.

The article in the March issue of CARIBBEAN CONTACT was based on newly-found unity among the opposition forces, and what it said was the virtual failure of government to make good on promises of investment and jobs. Their facts are always wrong and CONTACT always reports the way they would like to see things. They are never unbiased, Miss Charles told the Caribbean News Agency (CANA). All I can say is that CONTACT wants the Labour Party to win. I'm afraid they are going to be disappointed that we are going to win the next elections.

Miss Charles said her administration, in its four years in power, had brought down unemployment from a level of 21 per cent to 13 per cent. In addition, strides in self-employment were almost immeasurable. She also said investment has been coming into the country, saying all available factory shells, with the exception of one, are occupied. Negotiations were taking place to have the empty shell filled, she said. Miss Charles said her government has not boasted about these achievements.

GRENADA

BLAIZE REPORTS AID FROM JAMAICA LIKELY

FL041434 Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 2 Mar 85

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 2, CANA -- Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, just back from a trip to Jamaica, says Grenada is likely to receive technical assistance from Kingston in the areas of agriculture, education, and works. We believe that we are going to get some assistance in those three areas, and they are going to be in touch with me very shortly, they promise, he told Grenadians in a radio broadcast last night.

Blaize was in Kingston to attend the informal two-day summit involving Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Commonwealth Caribbean leaders. He said the meeting produced satisfactory results. As a result of a meeting with Prime Minister Edward Seaga, Blaize also indicated that Kingston may send professional people to help in a kind of counterpart relationship to do the works that are necessary to restore the economy and our infrastructure.

The trip was Blaize's first since assuming office in last December's general elections which returned Grenada to democratic government after more than four years of rule by decree.

Blaize expressed pleasure at the announcement by the new Canadian prime minister that he would honour his predecessor's promise to double Canadian aid to the region by 1987. Blaize was also optimistic about the possibility of virtually all regional goods entering Canada duty free under a programme similar to the U.S. Caribbean Basin Initiative. The idea was proposed by Seaga. The Grenadian leader, noting that about 93 per cent of regional goods already enter Canada duty free, said extending the provision to cover footwear and textiles would boost Caribbean manufacturing and trade. The Canadian prime minister undertook to give serious study to this, and we are hopeful that we would get a very positive result, Blaize said.

GOVERNMENT DENIES BANK SALE TO TRINIDAD GROUP

FL041758 Bridgetown CANA in English 1743 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] St George's, Grenada, March 3, CANA -- The Grenada Government has described as alarmist and totally unfounded reports circulating in the country that the state-owned Grenada Bank of Commerce (GBC) is to be sold to a Trinidad and Tobago conglomerate.

The government said in a statement that any sale of the bank, which was purchased from the Royal Bank of Canada in 1983 by the leftwing regime of slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, would be made only to Grenadians.

The release comes against the backdrop of a resolution passed five days ago by the Grenada Cooperative Nutmeg Association calling on the three-month old Herbert Blaize administration to retain the GBC. The resolution said there are sufficient Grenadian institutions and individuals willing to purchase the GBC to make the bank a truly Grenadian institution controlled by the people.

In its statement, the government said the Ministry of Finance was unofficially informed that the Royal Bank of Canada had expressed interest in the repurchase of its former branch here and as such the ministry decided to explore the information. To date, no formal proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of Finance on the matter nor have any discussions with the allegedly interested party commenced. The government, which is in the process of looking into the state-owned enterprises set up by the previous leftwing administration, promised to shortly promulgate its policy on the divestiture of public utilities.

In the meantime, it is hereby declared for the sake of defusing and dispelling once and for all the rumours which have been bruited about regarding the sale of the bank and which in point of fact are likely to injure confidence in the bank, that the GBC is presently not for sale, the release said. At the same time, the public is hereby assured that if and when sale of the bank is contemplated in future, it will be primarily to Grenadians at home and overseas, it added.

NUTMEG INDUSTRY REPORT DESCRIBED AS 'BLEAK'

FL050156 Bridgetown CANA in English 1818 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Excerpt] St George's, Grenada, March 3, CANA -- The Grenada Cooperative Nutmeg Association (GCNA) has just presented to farmers here another bleak report on the performance of the key industry during the last financial year ending June 1984. According to the report, such is the depressed state of the industry that four years ago 3.9 million pounds of nutmegs were sold for EC11.8 million dollars (one EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.), but in 1984, 4.9 million lbs fetched only 8.4 million dollars.

The report, which was presented during Thursday's bi-annual meeting of the GCNA, said that the market for nutmeg continued to be depressed during the year, resulting in a fall in both the quality and value of nutmeg exported. In the report, it was stated that in the last financial year just under 5 lbs of nutmeg exports brought in 7 million dollars as against the previous year when 5.9 million lbs garnered 9.5 million dollars.

On mace, which is by-product of nutmeg, the report said trading in the commodity was lower in quantity and revenue, but the market price was higher due to shortages on the world market. The GCNA was able to get 1.5 million dollars from the sale of 308,555 lbs of mace.

The report said this year's trading resulted in a net deficit of just over half a million dollars. There was a loss of 741,667 dollars on sales of nutmeg, and a surplus of 164,911 dollars on mace. According to the document, during the year just ended, Grenadian farmers sold approximately 5 million lbs of nutmeg and 433,532 lbs of mace to the GCNA. This represented increases of 5 percent and 31 percent respectively in crop produced when compared with figures for the previous year.

JAMAICAUNIDO DIRECTOR TO MEET WITH SEAGA, MINISTERS

FL050028 Bridgetown CANA in English 1932 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 4, CANA -- The executive director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Dr Abdel Rahman Khane, arrives here today for a three-day visit at the invitation of the Jamaica Government. He is on a Latin American tour that has already taken in Venezuela and Nicaragua and from here he will go to Cuba.

Khane will meet with Prime Minister Edward Seaga, Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Minister Hugh Shearer, and the Minister of Industry and Commerce Douglas Vaz, officials said. Khane will also hold discussions with officials of several government agencies and visit projects receiving support from UNIDO.

The present level of UNIDO assistance to Jamaica is over U.S. 2.3 million dollars.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLESPUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS STAGE STRIKE IN ARUBA

FL051502 Hilversum International Service in English 1030 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] In Aruba, one of the islands of the Netherlands Antilles, public sector workers are staging a 3-hour strike today. Last Saturday, their trade unions had threatened a stoppage unless the island government would rescind a decision to cut wages of public sector workers by 10 percent. The government has, however, not reacted to the demand, although it is prepared to hold new negotiations about the controversial wage decrease. It's expected that the strike will affect all government institutions on the island as well as schools.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGOU.S. EXPLORER SHIP TO BE RETURNED BY VENEZUELA

PA021816 Paris AFP in Spanish 1542 GMT 2 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, 2 Mar (AFP) -- The U.S. explorer ship detained last Wednesday by Venezuelan coast guard vessels will be returned to Trinidad and Tobago in 48 hours, a ranking source of that country in this capital has advised. It was said that the Panamanian-flag ship with several U.S. seamen and a Trinidadian geologist were in the territorial waters of Trinidad. The Venezuelans alleged that the ship was in their waters north of the Caribbean Sea.

It was indicated in the Guyanese capital that efforts were made to resolve the situation in a friendly manner before a crisis developed.

BURNHAM ON VENEZUELA CONFLICT, CUBA TIES

PA051606 Paris AFP in Spanish 1823 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Caracas, 4 Mar (AFP) -- Guyanese President Forbes Burnham has said that Venezuela must prove the invalidity of the 1899 decision on Essequibo, which has been the source of a border dispute between Venezuela and Guyana for more than 20 years. During an interview with the Caracas morning newspaper EL NACIONAL, Burnham said that UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will not be able to solve the border conflict; he will only be able to suggest a way to resolve that controversy in keeping with the Geneva agreement signed by Guyana, Venezuela, and Great Britain. Guyana had not achieved its independence from Great Britain at the time when the agreement was signed. Burnham said that he could discuss a Venezuelan outlet to the Atlantic, but that country is claiming Guyanese territory containing oil. Guyana was granted possession of Essequibo in the 1899 arbitration decision. Burnham pointed out that should Venezuela be able to show that this decision is invalid, then the issue would be the redesignation of the borders. He said: "The Geneva agreement, and perhaps this is not very clearly understood in Venezuela, refers to the controversy involving the validity of that decision."

During the interview, several topics were discussed including the conflict with Venezuela, Burnham's political stand, the Central American crisis, and the Cuban position. Regarding the Central American situation, he said that he does not know what the solution will be. He pointed out: "Nicaragua represents no threat to the security of the United States. The Sandinist government is fighting against the contras, some of whom are headquartered in Costa Rica and El Salvador." He added: "This is a domestic problem of the Sandinists, but I believe that it would be an improvement if the Sandinists should succeed in liquidating the contras." Burnham added that he admires Daniel Ortega because he is willing to withdraw Cuban instructors. As for Ronald Reagan's policy toward Nicaragua, he said that he is "misinformed" about Nicaragua being a sanctuary for Salvadoran guerrillas.

Commenting on the Cuban position, Burnham said that he met with Fidel Castro in September. He added: "Castro is afraid, he is frightened. The last thing he wants is war in Central America. Fidel does not advocate warmongering policies; he thinks of his country's own security, Guantanamo, and on the closeness to the Florida coastline. He is busy with the economy, because he wants to upgrade the people's standard of living. He is busy with his own country's defense, not with waging a war abroad." According to Burnham, Castro's role in the Caribbean and Latin America should be to reintegrate Cuba into the Latin American and Caribbean communities. He said: "I am sure that he is not interested in embarking on an adventure."

In addition, Burnham denied that Cuban planes carrying troops to Angola have made stopovers in Guyana. Burnham finally said: "We support the same cause in Angola, but we have never allowed or been asked to allow military planes bound for Angola to make a stopover here. The United States, which has a very modern satellite system, would have detected that, and would have denounced it, too."

TWO GOVERNMENT REAPPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

FLO41824 Bridgetown CANA in English 1802 GMT 4 Mar 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, March 3, CANA -- Transport Minister Seeram Prashad was today appointed a senior minister of government, the office of President Forbes Burnham announced. Parliamentary Secretary for Youth Donald Ainsworth is now minister of state within the Ministry of Education. Ainsworth has been a member of parliament since the last general elections in 1980.

DOMINICAN REPUBLICJORGE LEAVES ON 40-HOUR TRIP TO COLOMBIA

PA051806 Paris AFP in Spanish 1730 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Santo Domingo, 5 Mar (AFP) -- Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco left at 1305 today from the Santo Domingo airport on a 40-hour visit to Bogota, Colombia, at the invitation of President Belisario Betancur. Jorge Blanco is accompanied by his wife Asela Mera, the Army commander, ministers, businessmen, and newsmen. Before leaving he transferred power to Manuel Berges Chupani, president of the Supreme Court.

MEXICOSECRETARIAT ANNOUNCES DECREASE IN TRADE SURPLUS

FL041918 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1750 GMT 3 Mar 85

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- According to preliminary figures of the Secretariat of Programming and Budget, Mexico's 1984 trade balance showed a \$12,265,440,000 surplus. The secretariat reported that the surplus is 7.8 percent less than last year's surplus. It added that the surplus was a result of having received \$24,053,600,000 in exports and \$11,788,200,000 in imports. It said the decline in the surplus from 1983 is due to the 30.9 percent increase in imports, while exports grew by only 7.8 percent. The secretariat said the largest increase in imports was in consumer goods, which grew by 38.2 percent, while capital goods imports grew by 36.5 percent. It said public sector imports amounted to \$4,789,700,000 and those of the private sector grew by \$6,464,600,000. The growth of exports occurred mainly in nonpetroleum products, which grew by 18.4 percent. These include cotton, tomatoes, vegetables, melons, ground and bean coffee, and beans, as well as products from the extractive industries.

VENEZUELAVISITING UK OFFICIAL DISCUSSES FALKLANDS

PA052013 Paris AFP in Spanish 1936 GMT 5 Mar 85

[Text] Caracas, 5 Mar (AFP) -- The United Kingdom "is not willing to discuss the sovereignty of the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands," the Baroness Young, deputy foreign minister of the United Kingdom, reiterated today in Caracas. "The path to normalizing relations with Argentina is through regaining trust and confidence and discussing practical measures in spheres such as trade and cultural relations in which reasonable progress can be achieved," Young said.

The Baroness Janet Young ended a 2-day visit to Venezuela today. She arrived here from Uruguay, where she attended the inauguration of new Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti. Young briefed President Jaime Lusinchi and Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul (Venezuela was an active supporter of Argentina during the South Atlantic war in 1982) on "the efforts we have made to normalize relations with Argentina." Shortly before leaving today Young stated that "just as the Uruguayan, Argentine, or Venezuelan peoples are free to choose their leaders, I believe that the people of the Falkland Islands should also enjoy that right." Young left Caracas for Trinidad and Tobago and Belize.